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KARPOV COMMENTS ON PROGRESS OF GENEVA ARMS TALKS

LD161933 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 16 Mar 85

[From the "Vremya" newscast; video report by correspondent Gennadiy Vedenyapin from Geneva]

[Text] The Soviet-American talks opened here in Geneva this week with a meeting between the heads of the delegations. The agenda has mutually interconnected questions of reducing nuclear arsenals -- strategic and medium-range -- and of preventing the arms race in near-earth space.

At the first plenary session, the participants in the Soviet-American dialogue began to outline their principled positions with regard to the essence of the talks.

[Begin V.P. Karpov, head of USSR delegation, recording; identified by caption] The talks have just begun. It is still too early to say with certainty what results they will lead to and when. The USSR's delegation has been instructed by the Soviet leadership to conduct the talks in a businesslike manner and constructive spirit while striving to get effective solutions on the whole range of questions pertaining to nuclear and space arms.

Certain statements made in Washington by officials in connection with the talks cannot but put one on one's guard. A striving can be discerned and felt in these statements to review the accord with regard to the subject matter, tasks, and goals of the talks reached on 7 and 8 January during Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko's meeting with Secretary of State Shultz. For instance, as far as space is concerned, one gets the impression that during the negotiations the American side wishes to talk not about the issue of space being peaceful, not about banning the deployment of the strike space weapons, but about, well, as it were, to deliver lectures on the alleged benefit of the American star wars concept -- a concept which, in essence, aims to make space a source of threat of war to mankind.

The Soviet side will strive to ensure at the talks that the 8 January accord becomes, in its entirety, the basis for conducting serious talks on space and nuclear arms.

Only an approach which provides for a comprehensive examination and resolution of the questions entrusted to the delegations can lead to the attainment of mutually acceptable results. [end recording]

U.S. TRYING TO SEPARATE SPACE ARMS, OTHER ISSUES

LD171957 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1500 GMT 17 Mar 85

[From the "International Panorama" program presented by NOVOSTI political observer Spartak Beglov]

[Text] The Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space weapons have just started in Geneva. The attitude of the broad international public to them is uniform; profound concern is being expressed everywhere that the talks should lead to the desired result: the staving off of a new and extraordinarily dangerous upturn in the arms race. The first reports from Geneva indicate that the talks started in a businesslike atmosphere, but, in the press and public circles of many countries, concern is nevertheless still being expressed over the U.S. side's approach to these talks.

This concern is connected with the U.S. Administration's attempts, which intensified on the eve of Geneva, to distort the sense of the previously reached joint accord on the subject and aims of the talks and cast doubt on the principle of close linkage of all three questions being discussed and resolved: the nonmilitarization of space and the limitation and reduction of strategic and medium-range nuclear missile weapons.

The design being pursued by Washington is clear: to detach the question of averting an arms race in space from this collection of issues and leave itself free to realize the plan for creating antimissile defense with space-based elements. One should not be surprised how unceremoniously the initiators of the star wars plan ignore warnings by specialists in the sphere of arms control, both in the United States itself and in other countries. They are unanimous in the view that the realization of these plans could lead to extremely dangerous consequences for the strategic situation. It is characteristic and that the majority of the former leaders of the Pentagon are in the camp of the critics of this department's military adventure in space: Robert McNamara, Harold Brown, and others. As though stressing the numerous critical statements, the former British prime minister, the Conservative Edward Heath, this week said that the Washington plan for deploying weapons in space would not free the world from nuclear weapons. On the contrary, its realization would lead to an unprecedented and dangerous escalation of the arms race. And indeed, what sort of contribution by the United states to the freeing of the world from nuclear weapons can we be talking about if the start of the talks in Geneva was marked by a new step by Washington towards a buildup of its strategic nuclear arsenal? One of the U.S. Congress subcommittees has come out in favor of the demands of the President for the allocation of $1.5 billion for an additional 21 MX intercontinental ballistic missiles.

In these circumstances the reminder from Moscow that there is only one way towards constructive agreements in Geneva resounded in the timeliest fashion and with the utmost weight. The only wise way out of the situation which has been created, as was stressed at the extraordinary CPSU Central Committee plenum, is an accord by the opposing forces on an immediate stop to the arms race, and above all nuclear arms race, on earth and the refusal to permit it in space -- an accord on an honest and equal basis, without attempts to outsmart the other side and dictate conditions to it; an accord which will help everyone to move forwards toward the desired goal: the complete destruction and banning forever of nuclear weapons and the complete elimination of the threat of nuclear war.

CHERNYSHEV NOTES SDI PREPARATION CONSEQUENCES

LD151827 Moscow TASS in English 1814 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 15 TASS -- TASS military news analyst Vladimir Chernyshev writes:

At the started Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva, the USSR is ready to look for and to work out most radical solutions which would make it possible to move toward full prohibition and, ultimately, elimination of nuclear weapons. The Soviet leadership have repeatedly emphasised that in the present-day conditions it is of importance of prevent the transfer of the arms race to outer space. If this is not done, it is unreal to hope for reduction and limitation of nuclear arms.

However, the U.S. Administration is obviously unwilling to abandon its "strategic defence initiative" which envisages the creation an anti-missile defense network with space-based elements.

Washington, shamelessly manipulating far-fetched "reasons" and ruthlessly exploiting peaceable phraseology, is trying to convince the public that the "initiative" will ostensibly ensure defence against a massive nuclear strike, will make it possible to achieve a new strategic stability, and will render nuclear weapons "obsolete".

What would be the consequences of preparation for "star wars" in actual fact? Firstly, the realisation of the "initiative" would mean an undermining of the arms limitation and reduction process, would nullify everything positive that was achieved in the seventies and would undermine the Soviet-U.S. treaty of unlimited duration on the limitation of anti-ballistic missile systems -- the most important agreement on arms control.

Secondly, the security of the United States would not grow in any way but would only decrease. Most U.S. experts agree that no anti-missile defence system can ensure a close-to-hundred-per-cent defence against strategic ballistic missiles and render totally ineffective other delivery vehicles -- bombers and cruise missiles.

Thirdly, the "initiative" would become a new stimulus to the acceleration and expansion of the arms race. It is extremely absurd to suppose that the prospect of deployment by the United States of systems which can undermine the effectiveness of Soviet missile forces would not encounter resolute counter-actions. This, incidentally, is understood quite well in the Pentagon. According to a statement by Richard Delauer, U.S. under secretary of defence, a defence system can be neutralised in any conditions, should an enemy only want very much to do so. Historical experience shows, too, that new defence concepts only made experts work on the creation of more effective offensive systems. Thus, the realisation of the "star wars" concept would entail an increase nuclear arsenals, the introduction of systems to overcome anti-missile defence systems and expansion of anti-missile defence systems themselves, i.e. an endless chain of dangerous steps under an "action-counteraction" scheme.

Fourthly, it is seen already now that the "initiative" is a recipe for unlimited rivalry from the viewpoint of colossal military expenditures. The "first payment" alone would amount for the United States to 26,000-30,000 million dollars in the coming five years, which will be used for research, experimental and design work. By way of comparison, it can be pointed out that, in the prices of the 1986 financial year, 15,000 million dollars were spent on the "Manhattan Project" under which an atomic bomb was created, and 40,000 million dollars were spent for the entire research in the field of military missile technology over thirty years (from 1954 to 1983). The deployment of a large-scale anti-missile defense network will cost the U.S. taxpayers 1,000,000 million dollars or even more.

Fifthly, the deployment of the anti-missile defence system would lead to an increase in the danger of a deliberate unleashing of a nuclear war. President Reagan admitted in March 1983 that any defence systems if combined with offensive systems can be regarded as a factor contributing to an aggressive policy. At the same time Washington, while insisting on continuation of the work in the field of anti-missile defence systems, continues to actively produce offensive nuclear weapons and is trying in every way to emphasise that the "star wars" programme in no way lessens the need for six new offensive systems which are first-nuclear-strike ones.

It is perfectly clear that the intention to get an opportunity to destroy by means of anti-missile defence systems the strategic systems of the other side, i.e. stripping it of a capability of delivering a retaliatory strike, cannot be regarded otherwise than a calculation to disarm the Soviet Union in the face of the U.S. nuclear threat.

Sixthly, the creation of anti-missile defence sysystems would incomparably enhance the danger of an unsanctioned, accidental outbreak of a nuclear war. A possibility of a system's false actuation is an unsurmountable systemic drawback of any automated system. Even in the U.S. present less-sophisticated air defence systems, more than 150 false alarms envisaging the use of nuclear weapons were registered by the middle of 1983. A large-scale anti-missile defence system, according to U.S. Secretary of Defence Caspar Weinberger, is contemplated to pinpoint missiles within some fractions of a second, to differentiate real targets from false ones, to aim and to actuate various types of weapons for the destruction of targets. How great for it will be probability of an error which would be fatal to the whole world?

Everything that has been mentioned confirms once again that it is now impossible to tackle the problem of strengthening security and reducing nuclear arms in isolation from preventing militarisation of outer space.

EXPERT ON U.S. BOGDANOV WRITES ON ARMS TALKS

PM151411 Rotterdam NRC HANDELSBLAD in Dutch 12 Mar 85 p 9

[USSR Academy of Sciences United States and Canada Institute Deputy Director Radomir Bogdanov article: "Soviet Thoughts on the Geneva Arms Talks"]

[Text] The fate of the world depends in many respects on the question of whether a way will be found to prevent an arms race in space and to end the arms race on earth. On the initiative of the Soviet Union the objective of the Soviet-U.S. negotiations, due to begin 12 March in Geneva, has been formulated thus.

What is at stake is the most important question of our time. For success a complex approach is indispensible, and it must recognize the interconnections between the solutions to questions in the field of space and nuclear arms. Hererin lies the fundamental significance of the agreements reached in Geneva in January this year. There are no reasonable alternatives to such an approach. Without the absence of the militarization of space it is impossible to end the process of the accumulation of stockpiles of nuclear and other weapons. This is precisely where the shoe pinches. The negotiations have still not begun and already there has been a swarm of statements by prominent persons in the United States that the gigantic rearmament program will continue. They have no desire to set aside all the plans to transport the arms race into space.

The Soviet Union has no illusions: The negotiations will be difficult, but may hopeless fatalism remain alien to us. Our side is honestly prepared to make its contribution to a path of mutually acceptable agreements. In this connection fundamental importance must be attached to the interpretation Konstantin Chernenko has given of the Soviet Union's approach to the forthcoming negotiations.

First: The Soviet Union is not striving for military superiority over the United States and the NATO countries.

Second: The Soviet Union wants the end of the arms race and for this reason has raised for discussion first steps such as the freeze of nuclear arsenals of the negotiating parties, a halt to the further deployment of missiles, and so on.

Third: The Soviet Union wants a real reduction in arms stockpiles, and initially a significant reduction. The Soviet Union is against the stockpiling of new weapons systems, both in space and on earth, offensive or so-called defensive. At the same time it is striving toward the final goal -- the total abolition of nuclear arms everywhere.

Fourth: It would be of extraordinary significance if the nuclear powers were to enter a binding agreement that in their mutual relations they would live up to norms which would be able to prevent the danger of a nuclear catastrophe, and if, in the 40th year since the end of World War II, they were together to confirm in letter and spirit the commitments made by the leaders of the USSR and the United States which went down in history as the beginning of 10 years of detente.

The true wisdom of those who stand at the head of their states is to be found in their readiness to reject totally the frightful danger threatening us from space and, in general terms, to reject war as a method for resolving international conflicts; in their preparedness to guarantee peace for all peoples, regardless of their social system, ideology, and world outlook. This is what is called "peaceful coexistence" in the Soviet Union.

The point is that people on the other side of the ocean will have to be prepared honestly to solve these problems on the basis of parity and equal security. The USSR has every reason to promote these goals.

Where are the guarantees that the United States will not use the negotiations as a shield behind which attempts will be made to win military superiority over the Soviet Union and that the negotiations will not again be steered into a blind alley? Is it not a fact that in the past agreements already reached have been overturned at will or decleared "invalid"? Time will tell how far the situation has changed in this respect.

NEW DELHI SIX ISSUE COMMUNIQUE ON ARMS TALKS

LD151758 Moscow TASS in English 1633 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Text] Geneva March 15 TASS -- On the instruction of heads of state and government of six countries -- the authors of the New Delhi Declaration, the ambassadors of Argentina, Greece, India, Mexico, Tanzania and Sweden called on the heads of the delegations of the USSR and USA at the negotiations on nuclear and space armaments that began here. They presented to the participants in the negotiations a document stressing the pressing need of delivering mankind from the threat of a nuclear catastrophe.

The representatives of six states greeted the beginning of the Soviet-American dialogue in Geneva and stressed that they attached great importance to the proclaimed objective of these negotiations: to prevent an arms race in space and to terminate it on earth. "We expect the two parties to implement, in good faith, their undertaking and their negotiations to produce, at an early date, significant results. The outcome of these negotiations is a matter of concern of all nations and all peoples", it said in a communique which was issued.

The document stresses the determination of the countries, the authors of the New Delhi Declaration, to do everything in their power to facilitate agreement among the nuclear states.

Speaking today at a press conference at the Geneva Palace of Nations, the ambassadors of six countries noted that the international situation now gives the hope for a possibility of attaining progress. The world public feel profound concern over the danger which hangs over mankind, and attaches priority significance to questions of ensuring peace and security. The ambassadors noted with satisfaction that the New Delhi Declaration received positive response in the whole world, but they expressed regret over the fact that it was criticized by some Western countries.

GRINEVSKIY SPEAKS AT STOCKHOLM CONFERENCE

LD151508 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1350 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Text] Stockholm, 15 Mar (TASS) -- Oleg Grinevskiy, leader of the USSR delegation as a special ambassador, spoke at a meeting of the Stockholm Conference on Confidence-Building Measures and Security and Disarmament in Europe. He called the attention of the participants in the Stockholm forum to the important assessments of the present dangerous international situation and to the urgent task of strengthening peace and security which are contained in the speeches made by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

The Soviet representative said that the present responsible stage of world development demands that all states make consistent efforts to prevent the arms race in space and to end the arms race on earth, to establish an atmosphere of trust and cooperation among peoples, and to eliminate the threat of war, first and foremost, nuclear war.

O. Grinevskiy went on to say that the USSR has displayed flexibility and has introduced a proposal at the conference on the basic provisions of a treaty on the mutual nonuse of military force based on the joint initiatives of the socialist countries. This proposal calls for talks that would breathe new life into this very important undertaking. We are prepared also to elaborate and adopt practical measures in the sphere of purely military detente. The delegations of the Bulgarian People's Republic, the GDR, and the USSR recently submitted a document with a proposal to limit the scale of military exercises.

O. Grinevskiy stressed that, in all of these directions and in the political and military spheres, the USSR and the socialist countries are ready to go forward and seek mutually acceptable decisions so that the Stockholm conference can result in weighty understandings on the strengthening of trust and security in Europe.

At the same meeting, Ambassador Oldrich Pavlovskiy, representative of Czechoslovakia, proposed on behalf of the CSSR, Polish Socialist Republic, and the USSR, that notification be given of major military exercises of ground troops in Eurpoe and its adjacent waters and airspace from a level of 20,000 men and above, carried out independently or with any components of air forces or navies. Such notifications, the proposal states, could be sent 30 days before the start of the exercises.

SHULTZ ADVOCATES STRATEGIC WEAPONS BUILDUP

LD161809 Moscow TASS in English 1733 GMT 16 Mar 85

[Text] Washington March 15 TASS -- The Reagan administration does not wish to give up its adventurist policy of militarizing outer space and of carrying out massive militaristic preparations. This has again been demonstrated by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. Addressing a press conference here, he said that at the Geneva talks the USA did not intend to give up Reagan's "star wars" programme, but was only prepared...to hold a "longer dialogue" on that subject.

From Washington's viewpoint, the U.S. secretary of state said, advocating this stand, the main aim of the Geneva talks should be to reach as soon as possible an agreement on "substantial cuts" in offensive weapons. Yet, speaking right after the press conference in Congress, George Shultz demonstrated that even this declaration is, to put it mildly, far from reality. At any rate, Shultz does not bear in mind cuts on the basis of equality and equal security.

Addressing the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, he advocated a further buildup of strategic weapons of the USA, by declaring that a favourable outcome of voting in Congress was necessary on the issue of appropriation of 1.5 billion dollars to build another 21 MX missiles. In doing so, the U.S. secretary of state cited, contrary to common sense, as an "argument" in favour of this programme...the start of the Soviet-American talks in Geneva on nuclear and space weapons. Such statements are a sheer deception of the public.

PERLE REMARKS ON MORE NUCLEAR WEAPONS CONDEMNED

LD15[illegible]11 Moscow TASS in English 2055 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 15 TASS -- TASS commentator Valentin Vasilets writes:

The advocates of Reagan's programme for nuclear superarms incessantly have to enter into obvious conflict with norms of both logic and common sense. Richard Perle, U.S. assistant secretary of defence, who spoke in two sub-committees of the House of Representatives on Thursday during the discussion of the question of the consequences of a "nuclear winter," is no exception in this respect. The essence of Perle's indecipherable inferences boils down to the statement that since, as scientists have established, nuclear weapons are even more terrible than hitherto reckoned, one should have still more of them.

The discussion in Congress was prompted by a report which was recently issued by the Pentagon on the potential effect of a nuclear war on the planet's climate. The report prepared by experts at the Pentagon's request on the whole confirms the conclusions which were earlier made by the USA's National Academy of Sciences. The conclusions are impossible to ignore: As a result of a more or less simultaneous explosion even of not every considerable part of the stockpiled nuclear arsenals, clouds of dust and ashes of burnt-down structures and objects will bar the way to sun rays. The temperature will drop by several tens of degrees and a "nuclear winter" will set in. The very life on earth will be under the threat of full destruction. Soviet scientists adhere to the same opinion on that score.

What is a way out? According to Perle, "The best way to prevent nuclear winter is to build up enough weapons to make sure that the Soviets will be deterred from attacking and thus causing nuclear winter." The U.S. assistant secretary of defence says that this is precisely what the United States presses for through a nuclear arms build-up.

Just like other high officials of the Reagan administration, Perle does not think that the "best way" is to achieve a reduction of nuclear arsenals by reaching mutual agreement. It is highly significant that even the start of the talks in Geneva does not impel Perle and numerous other people thinking alike to recall that there is another, more reasonable and reliable way to preserve life on earth.

The allusion to the "Russians" is of a purely standing character in Perle's pronouncement, with no meaning behind it: On the same grounds "the Russians," too, could advocate an endless nuclear arms race in order to "deter the Americans."

Perle is reckoned among those in the United States who have virtually the same answer to all problems of the present-day extremely complex international situation: There should be more nuclear weapons. And whatever new strategic "initiatives" and "concepts" are put forward, the strengthening of the nuclear potential is their invariable element.

The talks with the Soviet Union, too, should, according to their designs, be used for the same purpose: to strengthen their own potential by reducing the other one's. There can be no question of the seriousness or sincerity of their approach to the Geneva talks. Perle is not a private person, but none in Washington intends to refute his assertions.

The Soviet Union holds a different position. At the latest plenary meeting of the CPSU Central Committee -- a most authoritative Soviet forum -- it was emphasized again that the USSR does not seek military superiority. "We want termination, and not continuation of the arms race -- and therefore we suggest that nuclear arsenals be frozen and further deployment of missiles be stopped."

Really this is the best way. It is a pity that they in Washington keep forgetting about it.

CEMA COUNTRIES' 1984 PERFORMANCE VIEWED

PM110852 Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 9, Feb 85 (Signed to Press 25 Feb 85) p 20

[Candidate of Economic Sciences V. Andreyev "Review": "The CEMA Countries' Economies in 1984"]

[Text] The June 1984 CEMA countries' economic summit conference in Moscow imparted powerful momentum to socialist economic integration and the further development of the economy of every fraternal country and the community as a whole. Purposeful work is under way in the community states to implement the decisions of the Moscow conference.

Last year the CEMA countries by and large achieved substantial results in implementing the socioeconomic development programs for 1981-1985.

The increase in national income (these and subsequent figures are national statistical bodies' preliminary figures) in 1984 compared with 1983 was 4.6 percent in Bulgaria, 3 percent in Hungary, 5.5 percent in the GDR, 7.4 percent in Cuba (gross social product), 4.4 percent in Mongolia, 5 percent in Poland, 7.7 percent in Romania, 2.6 percent in the USSR (used for consumption and accumulation), and 3.2 percent in the CSSR. There were positive results in the SRV in modernizing the economy and raising the level of economic development.

Successes were achieved in the development of industrial production. In 1984 nearly all the community countries increased the industrial production growth rate compared with the average annual indicators for 1981-1984.

Increase in Industrial Output in the CEMA Countries (Percentage)

	Average Annual Rate of Increase for 1981-1984	1984 Increase Over 1983
Bulgaria	4.4	4.5
Hungary	2.3	3.0
GDR	4.1	4.2
Mongolia	9.6	8.3
Poland	-0.7	5.3
Romania	3.9	7.0
Soviet Union	3.8	4.2
Czechoslovakia	2.4	3.9

The vast majority of the industrial production increase (over 90 percent in the European CEMA countries) was due to improved labor productivity. There was a reduction in proportionate consumption of energy and material resources.

In most CEMA countries the fastest development rates were in the sectors responsible for accelerating scientific and technical progress and improving social production efficiency: above all the fuel and energy sectors, the chemical and petrochemical industry, and machine building. In Bulgaria, chemical output increased during the year by 6 percent and machine building output by 9.8 percent. In Hungary, extraction of natural gas and production of electrical engineering increased by 6 percent and production of plastic articles increased by 7 percent. In the GDR, high rates of increase were achieved in machine tool building and microelectronics production: Production of industrial robots increased by 33 percent and production of semiconductor elements and electronic components increased by 18 percent. In Cuba, chemical production increased by 12 percent and metalworking output by 17 percent. In Poland, the volume of solid machine-building output increased by 8.7 percent and electrical engineering and electrical output by 11.6 percent. In Romania, production of computers increased by 13.2 percent and production of metal working machine tools by 10.1 percent. In the USSR, machine-building and metalworking output increased by 7 percent and electricity generation by 6 percent. In Czechoslovakia, general machine-building output increased by 12.2 percent.

The Course of Intensification

Measures to ensure the predominantly intensive development of the national economy continued to be implemented on the basis of introducing the achievements of scientific and technical progress, making more effective use of material resources, and improving output quality.

In Bulgaria more than 8,330 scientific and technical projects were implemented with an overall saving of more than 1 billion leva. Expenditure of materials per 100 leva of output fell by 0.6 percent during the year. The quality of industrial output improved. Hungary saw the continued implementation of programs geared to saving materials and expenditure of materials per unit of production fall somewhat.

In the GDR production consumption [proizvodstvennoye potrebleniye] per unit of national income was down 3 percent; around 12 percent of industrial raw material needs were satisfied by secondary raw material and 620 million working hours were saved in the national economy, which is equivalent to 340,000 people in manpower terms.

In Cuba, fuel consumption per unit of gross social product fell by 1.7 percent, which represented a saving of approximately 180,000 tons of oil. In Mongolia, the national economy saved materials, raw materials, fuel, and energy worth more than 60 million tugriks.

Around 2,000 new production processes were introduced in Poland, enabling it to reduce expenditure of raw and other materials and improve working conditions. In Romania, the use of advanced production processes considerably promoted the highly efficient assimilation of raw materials and the reduction of materials and energy consumption in the main sectors of the economy.

In the USSR, increased social labor productivity saved the labor of 3 million people. An above-plan reduction in prime costs in industry saved more than R2 billion. The proportion of top-quality products among those subject to certification was 43 percent. In Czechoslovakia the fulfillment of state-targeted programs contributed to a saving of 2.5 million metric tons of standard fuel and nearly 500,000 metric tons of metal.

The CEMA countries continued to implement the extensive capital construction program.

Much attention was devoted to the effective use of investment resources and the elimination of shortcomings in that sphere, including the reduction of the volume of uncompleted construction. In order to ensure stable and balanced economic growth capital investments have been increased, above all in the fuel and raw material sectors and also in the modernization and reconstruction of existing production capacities.

Last year many hundreds of new shops, plants, and combines were commissioned in the community states.

Agriculture

Last year there were unfavorable weather conditions in a number of CEMA countries. The consistent implementaton of programs to strengthen agriculture's material and technical base, the further dissemination of industrial technology aimed at securing stable harvests, and the most effective utilization of resources helped to lessen the consequences of the complex weather conditions in 1984.

The average annual volume of agricultural production in the CEMA countries in the 4 years of the current 5-year plan that have elapsed exceeded the corresponding indicator for the previous 5-year plan.

Gross agricultural output in Bulgaria increased 6.8 percent during the year. Per capita grain production in 1984 amounted to over 1 metric ton as against on average 917 kg in 1976-1980. Output of products of animal origin increased. In Hungary, output of agricultural products increased 2.5-3 percent and 15.7 million metric tons of grain were obtained, that is, 2 million metric tons more than in 1983, which was the best year prior to that. In the GDR, the highest results so far were achieved in 1984. The average yield of grain crops amounted to 45 quintals per hectare. The plan for state purchases and procurements of livestock products was considerably overfulfilled on all fronts.

In Cuba, production of tobacco and bananas increased considerably. In Mongolia, the average annual output of agricultural products increased 13 percent in the first 4 years as against the corresponding period of the previous 5-year plan. In Poland, a big harvest of grain crops, oil-yielding crops, and sugar beet was obtained, and livestock products increased 3.4 percent. In Romania, the biggest harvest of pulse crops, sugar beet, potatoes, and vegetables was obtained, and output of livestock products increased.

In the USSR, despite the extremely unfavorable conditions, the average annual volume of gross agricultural output in 1983-1984 increased 9 percent in comparison with the proceeding 2 years. Production of meat, milk, and other products began to grow steadily. In Czechoslovakia, the volume of gross agricultural output increased 3.6 percent during the year, and the gross grain harvest reached the record level of 12 million metric tons.

For the Sake of the Working People

On the basis of the acceleration of the CEMA countries' economic development as well as the deepening of their mutual cooperation, the successful implementation of the social programs put forward by the communist and workers' parties continued. The community countries allocate around three-fourths of their national income to social and personal consumption.

The population's real income increased, the average monthly wage of workers and employees increased, the volume of retail trade turnover grew, and housing conditions improved.

Real per capita income increased by 2.7 percent in Bulgaria, 1 percent in Hungary, 4 percent in the GDR, 3 percent in the Soviet Union, and 1.6 percent in Czechoslovakia (real monetary income).

The task of satisfying the population's demand for consumer goods by means of increasing their output and improving their quality was being successfully resolved. This was reflected in the growth of retail trade turnover, which was 4.6 percent in Bulgaria, 4.1 percent in the GDR, 4.2 percent in Mongolia, 6 percent in Poland, 4.8 percent in Romania, 4.2 percent in the USSR, and 3.1 percent in the CSSR.

Housing construction took place on a large scale. In the past year some 68,000 apartments were built in Bulgaria, more than 70,000 in Hungary, 207,000 in the GDR, 196,000 in Poland, nearly 132,000 in Romania, 2 million new apartments in the USSR, and 91,000 apartments in the CSSR. In Mongolia, more than 190,000 square meters of housing were commissioned.

In all the CEMA countries the population's educational and cultural standard and medical services and social security improved.

The Deepening of Integration

Successes in the socioeconomic development of the CEMA countries are inseparably linked with the further expansion and enrichment of their all-around economic collaboration and their economic, scientific, and technical cooperation.

In October 1984 the 39th CEMA Session was held in Havana. It devoted its main attention to the coordination of the CEMA countries' national economic plans for 1986-1990. Long-term comprehensive cooperation measures in the sphere of energy, fuel, and raw materials were approved for the period through 1990 and the longer term. In order to fulfill the task of satisfying the requirements of the CEMA countries' national economies for energy and raw materials, the fraternal countries will create on a multilateral basis large-scale projects like the main gas pipeline from Yamburg to the western border of the USSR, the Krivoy Rog iron ore mining and enrichment combine, and capacities for the extraction and processing of magnesite in Czechoslovakia and nickel-cobalt-bearing output in Cuba, organize the opening up of bauxite deposits in Vietnam and phosphorites in Mongolia, and cooperate in the modernization of the by-product coke industry in Poland.

Programs are being coordinated for the construction of AESes and nuclear heat and power stations and for cooperation in the economical and rational utilization of fuel, energy, and material resources through the year 2000.

Major joint work has been launched on the elaboration of a comprehensive program of scientific and technical progress for the CEMA countries for the period through the year 2000. The 38th (extraordinary) CEMA Session in June 1984 outlined a whole range of joint measures for the broad introduction of electronics in the national economy and its comprehensive automation. The delivery of electronics equipment, computer technology, and communications facilities between the Soviet Union and the European CEMA countries will amount to some 15 percent of the total volume of reciprocal deliveries in the next 5-year plan.

A special role is assigned to the further pooling of efforts in the sphere of machine building backed up by the latest achievements in science and technology. Large-scale development of production sharing and specialization, and above all its most effective forms -- subassembly, component, and manufacturing process production sharing and specialization -- must contribute to the speediest possible provision of key production sectors with top quality machinery and equipment.

The CEMA countries' foreign trade turnover continued to grow last year. The increase totaled 8.3 percent in Bulgaria, 8 percent in the GDR, 7.2 percent in Mongolia, 13.6 percent in Romania, and 9 percent in the USSR. In Hungary, the volume of imports last year corresponded to the 1983 level, but exports increased considerably, which favored the creation of a positive foreign trade balance. In Poland, exports and imports increased by 9 percent, and in Czechoslovakia by 10 percent.

The main proportion of most fraternal countries' foreign trade turnover is accounted for by reciprocal trade.

As a whole, 1984 was yet another year of peaceful creative labor by the fraternal socialist countries' peoples.

"In recent years, our countries have advanced still further in their socioeconomic development....," Comrade K.U. Chernenko noted in his speech at the meeting of voters in Moscow's Kuybyshevskiy Electoral Okrug. "The process of socialist economic integration is gathering speed and international socialist division of labor is gaining in depth. This is to the benefit of each fraternal country and the whole of the socialist community."

LEVIN PRAISES SOCIALIST COMMUNITY FOREIGN POLICY

LD152017 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Viktor Levin commentary]

[Text] Among the foreign policy tasks facing our party and country, a special place is occupied by questions connected with the strengthening of fraternal friendship with the states of the socialist community. It was stressed at the extraordinary CPSU Central Committee plenum that the first precept of the party and state is to safeguard and strengthen in every possible way the fraternal friendship with our closest comrades-in-arms and allies: the countries of the great socialist community. This line was clearly defined in the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and subsequent Central Committee plenums. It has been the principal line, the top priority line, ever since our community came into being. And the past years have shown vividly and convincingly what enormous possibilities are inherent in the fraternal friendship of the socialist states. This friendship helps us to perform more successfully the tasks of socialist and communist construction, it exerts a beneficial influence on the whole course of world affairs.

Peace and socialism are inseparable concepts. At the meeting between Comrade Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and the heads of the party and state delegations of the participant-states of the Warsaw Pact in Moscow in connection with the death of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, the desire of the fraternal states was reaffirmed to strive consistently and in a constructive spirit for the easing of tension in the world, the elimination of the threat of nuclear war, the adoption of effective measures in the disarmament -- and above all, nuclear disarmament -- sphere, and the prevention of the militarization of space. It was stressed that amid a complex international situation, the strengthening of the unity and cohesion of the fraternal countries and the stepping up of the coordination of their actions in the international arena assume particular significance.

To the credit of the states of the socialist community are a large number of achievements that have promoted the improvement of the international situation.

It was these states which were behind the initiative of holding an all-European conference on security and cooperation in Europe, which was a historic landmark in the life of the continent. It was they who consistently and with persistence advocated a renunciation of the first-use of nuclear weapons and force altogether, and the total elimination of nuclear weapons from Europe. The peace-loving policies of the socialist countries is distinguished by its adherence to principle and honesty. We do not seek unilateral advantages for ourselves; we do not attempt to achieve military superiority. We want peace for ourselves and others, and this not only means that our policies enjoy a high degree of prestige and the broadest support among the world public, but also lends them a powerful dynamism.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD171800 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1230 GMT 17 Mar 85

["International Observers Roundtable" program chaired by All-Union Radio commentator on foreign affairs Boris Andrianov; with Dmitriy Antonovich Volskiy, member of the Editorial Board of NOVOYE VREMYA; and Vadim Nikolayevich Nekrasov, international observer of the journal KOMMUNIST]

[Text] [Andrianov] Hello, comrades. Taking part in our roundtable discussion today are Dmitriy Antonovich Volskiy, member of the editorial board of the weekly NOVOYE VREMYA, and international observer of the journal KOMMUNIST, Vadim Nikolayevich Nekrasov.

Gorbachev Succession Hailed

At the very beginning of this week, an extraordinary plenum of the CPSU Central Committee was held. It had been convened in connection with the death of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet. That heavy loss draws Communists and the whole Soviet people still closer together. Soviet people quite correctly see in the Leninist party the leading and directing force of society; they have unlimited confidence in it, and actively support the domestic and foreign policy of the CPSU.

The whole party and the Soviet people have greeted with ardent approval the announcement that the extraordinary plenum of the party's Central Committee unanimously elected as general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev -- a prominent figure of the party and state who is devoting his knowledge, rich experience, and organizational talent to putting into effect the policy of the party. That decision has been regarded throughout our country and also abroad as more evidence of the unwavering loyalty of the CPSU to its Leninist course of creative activity and peace, and as proof of continuity in the party's policy.

Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU, made a speech at the plenum in which he expounded clearly and succinctly on the strategic line of the party in the sphere of domestic and foreign policy.

[Nekrasov] As far as foreign policy is concerned, this is a sphere in which, as Comrade Gorbachev said, our course is plain and consistent. It is a course of peace and progress; and it is precisely this course that our party and the Soviet state is firmly and unswervingly pursuing.

Pact Ties Reaffirmed

[Andrianov] In the struggle to implement that course, our party and state see it as their first precept to cherish and do all to strengthen the fraternal friendship with the countries of the great socialist community, our closest comrades-in-arms, and our closest allies. In his speech at the plenum, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev gave special prominence to this idea. Our fraternal countries are bonded together by unity of vision and by common goals and ideals in the struggle for peace and socialism, and their joint actions in the international arena are therefore well-coordinated and dynamic. Those joint actions not only add to the sum total of common effort, but the union that binds the countries of the socialist community multiplies, many times over, the effectiveness of their external policy. The foundation of the alliance is like a monolith: firm and unshakable.

And it is the socialist community, with its mighty economic and defense potential, that is the main obstacle in the way of the aggressive ambitions of imperialism. In the tense international situation that has developed in recent years, this comes out especially clearly. The peoples of the world see clearly how great is the role of the Soviet Union and of the whole socialist community in championing the first of the rights of man, the right to live. The peace-loving foreign policy of socialism inspires in them the hope that a nuclear disaster will not befall mankind; and that hope is still further strengthened by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's declaration that, quote, we will do all in our power to expand our interaction with the socialist states and to enhance the role and influence of socialism in world affairs, unquote. Of great importance in this connection were the meetings that took place in Moscow on 13 March between Comrade Gorbachev and the leaders of the party and state delegations of the Warsaw Pact states that had come here on the occasion of the death of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko. Those taking part in the meetings exchanged views on topical questions of socialist construction, of the preparations for the next congresses of the fraternal parties, and of the current international situation. They expressed a common determination to continue perfecting all-around political interaction and economic, ideological, and other cooperation. The meeting confirmed the desire of the Warsaw Pact member-states to work consistently and constructively for an easing of world tension, the removal of the threat of nuclear war, and the taking of effective measures in the sphere of disarmament -- above all, nuclear disarmament -- and of preventing the militarization of space. Another important aspect of that meeting was its emphasis on the special importance, in a difficult international situation, of strengthening the unity and cohesion of the fraternal parties and intensifying the coordination of their actions in the international arena.

Military Policy Reiterated

[Nekrasov] Our country is a principled and consistent advocate of peaceful, mutually beneficial cooperation among all states on principles of equality, mutual respect, and noninterference in internal affairs; and that thought runs throughout the entire international section of the speech delivered at the extraordinary plenum of the CPSU Central Committee by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev.

[Andrianov] Referring to relations with the capitalist states, Comrade Gorbachev said that we will firmly pursue the Leninist course of peace and peaceful coexistence. The Soviet Union will always answer goodwill with goodwill and trust with trust. But all must know that we will never forake the interests of our homeland or of its allies. The Land of the Soviets has never been a threat to anyone -- that is a truth of history. However, no one will ever succeed in dictating his will to us. The Soviet Union does not want the arms race. It is, after all, alien to the very nature of socialism, the ideal of which is peace. We are the most consistent adherents of a decisive curbing of the arms race, which has become a grave threat to peace and a heavy burden to the whole of the world economy. But we are not utopians. While a military threat exists in the world, we must guard as the apple of our eye the security of our country and of its allies and friends. The Soviet Union will never allow anyone to have military superiority. In the present difficult international situation, it is particularly important to maintain our country's defense capability at a level so that potential aggressors are well aware that any infringement upon the security of the Land of the Soviets or its allies, upon the peaceful life of the Soviet people, will be met with a devastating retaliatory strike. At the same time, we are always willing to seek a solution to international problems by peaceful means, by negotiation, our main demand being that there should be strict observance of the principle of equality and equal security.

The experience of history irrefutably shows that peace based on a policy of force, which is the course that certain people in the West are preaching, is a bad, dangerous policy, and one that is moreover hopeless for those who create it. The lessons of history tell us that the struggle against war must be waged before it breaks out. The point is a particularly topical one now, for never before has such a terrible threat been hanging over mankind as there is today. Our party and state, therefore, make great and unremitting efforts to improve the world political climate and bring about a change for the better in international affairs. How is this aim to be achieved? The answer to this question was given by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in his speech at the plenum, when he stressed that the only sensible way out of the situation that has come about is for the sides in confrontation to agree on immediately ending the arms race, primarily nuclear arms, on earth and preventing it in space. Such an agreement, however, must be reached on an honest and equal basis, without attempts to outplay the other side and dictate one's own conditions to it; in other words, agreement that would help advance toward the desired aim of completely liquidating and banning nuclear weapons forever and completely eliminating the threat of nuclear war. We view things realistically, of course, and realize that there are difficulties on the path toward achieving that noble aim. Despite all the complexities, however, it is completely possible to overcome those difficulties. Here it will all depend on whether the sides have the desire, the political will, and the readiness to try to reach agreement on the basis of reasonable compromise. The Soviet Union has all of these.

[Volskiy] The statesmen of a whole number of Western countries with whom Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev had talks this week had yet another opportunity to become convinced of this.

[Andrianov] But it goes further than that. During the talks between the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and the French president, the exchange of opinions on a number of international questions confirmed that both countries favor a return to the policy of detente, a halting of the arms race and the maintaining of the balance of forces on the lowest possible level. During Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's talks with President Pertini of Italy, there was a confirmation of the mutual intention expressed during the recent Soviet-Italian talks in Rome to consistently expand bilateral cooperation, including political contacts, in order to promote the restoration of detente in Europe, a reduction in the level of military confrontation on the continent, and the growth of mutual trust between states. At the same time, the exchange of opinions showed the closeness of the Soviet and Italian positions on the urgent need for both Eastern and Western states to work toward eliminating the threat of nuclear war and strengthening peace. These can be viewed as definite, favorable factors capable of furthering the solution of international problems at the negotiating table. It is now important to use these factors to the full in the noble aim of strengthening peace and the security of peoples.

Geneva Talks Stance

[Volskiy] In this connection, mention should be made of the enormous importance that all world public opinion attaches to the Soviet-U.S. talks on space and nuclear weapons which began, as you know, in Geneva on 12 March. Our country's approach to those talks is well known: The Soviet Union states with a feeling of profound responsibility that it is not striving to achieve unilateral advantages over the United States or the NATO countries, that it is not striving for military superiority over them. We sincerely want an end to the arms race, and we are therefore proposing that nuclear arsenals be frozen and that the further deployment of missiles be halted. We want a real and major reduction in the arms that have been stockpiled, and not the creation of more and more new weapons systems, be it in space or on earth.

The Soviet Union is right to express the wish that its positions be understood by the partners in the Geneva talks and that they respond in a reciprocal way. In that case, agreement would become possible and the peoples of the world would breathe a sigh of relief.

[Nekrasov] As the Western press reports, the American delegation came to the talks armed with instructions 12 pages long. When journalists in Washington asked about the contents of this lengthy document, Assistant Secretary of State Burt replied, quote, We are ready to show flexibility, unquote. In this connection, THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR noted, and not without good grounds, quote, The most important thing is the degree of that flexibility, unquote. Well, the forthcoming period will probably answer the question of that American newspaper. The Soviet delegation's position of principle at Geneva, however, is well known, and the directives on it, as you know, were confirmed by our party Politburo and reported in the press. In the opinion of the Soviet side, the talks open up the possibility -- naturally, if both sides show mutual readiness -- of preventing the arms race from spreading into space and halting it on earth, thus taking a major step on the path toward solving that most important task of liquidating nuclear weapons completely and everywhere. Well, to date there have been two meetings in Geneva. The heads of the Soviet and U.S. delegations met on 12 March, and the plenary meeting was held on Thursday, 14 March. As the Western press reports, it appears that such meetings will be held twice a week. The attention of the whole world, quite obviously, is riveted on the talks, and great expectations are laid on them. In particular, as a commentator of the West German ARD television company noted, for the first time in the history of arms limitation talks there will be a discussion of a subject that is so urgent and of such importance to mankind such as preventing the militarization of space.

[Andrianov] One interesting thing is the arrival in Geneva of a highly impressive delegation from the U.S. Congress that includes both a group of senators and members of the House of Representatives. They have come to observe the course of the talks, and the delegation consists of emissaries from both the ruling Republican Party and the Democratic Party. The U.S. Congress apparently intends, as they say, to seriously exercise control over the course of the talks [po seryeznomu czyat khod peregovorov, kak govoritsya, pod svoy kontrol].

[Nekrasov] Yes, that's true, and on the subject the Paris LIBERATION writes that before, the U.S. position at such talks was based on recommendations from the Pentagon, the State Department, and the U.S. National Security Council. But now, the newspaper notes, the Washington administration will also have to take the opinion of legislators into account. Incidentally, the members of that congressional group that you spoke of, Boris Vasilyevich -- leading senators such as Edward Kennedy, Lugar, Dole and Nunn; in other words, both Republicans and Democrats -- issued a statement on the opening of the talks calling upon President Reagan, quote, to demonstrate a creative and flexible approach to the talks, unquote.

[Andrianov] Vadim Nikolayevich, is anything known about the atmosphere in which the talks began? It is obviously still too early to talk about any achievements, but a lot depends, doesn't it, on the atmosphere of the meeting, or rather the approach that the participants in the talks demonstrate from the outset?

[Nekrasov] Well, as you have obviously heard, it has been decided to hold the Geneva talks in secret, in other words, not to report them to the press, or in any case not to report on the course of the talks and their character before time. It is known about the start of the talks, as the British GUARDIAN reports, for example, that they opened, quote, with a mutual expression of goodwill, unquote.

TEXT The first meeting on 12 March lasted about 3 hours. Differences in the initial positions of the sides are inevitable, and the press has said quite a bit about these. But in this connection I would like to recall what was said recently by the Soviet parliamentary delegation in Washington when it was discussing questions relating to the Geneva talks. The Soviet delegation said that we cannot agree with those who are already now striving to accustom people to the thought that the talks will last for years, and that virtually decades will pass before a common approach is found to solving the problem of nuclear and space weapons. Behind such reasoning one can see a reluctance to work with sights set on achieving positive results.

Ties With Third World

[Volskiy] I would like to draw attention to another aspect of the Soviet Union's consistent foreign policy line that has currently clearly manifested itself. That is its approach to the developing countries, the states which are conventionally called the Third World. Chiefly, as you know, they are the countries that have rid themselves of colonial dependence. Their population already makes up the majority of mankind: They are growing fast, and by the end of the century, according to various forecasts, it will include 80-90 percent of the earth's inhabitants, depending on which countries are included in the group. Well, there is no need to talk about how great the importance of our mutual relations with them is. They are varied countries, both with regard to their level of development and their sociopolitical orientation, as well as many other aspects. Formulated in Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's speech at the Central Committee plenum was a clear approach to this complex conglomeration of states. The Soviet Union, Comrade Gorbachev said, has always supported the struggle by peoples for liberation from colonial oppression, and today our sympathies are on the side of the countries of Asia, Africa, and Latin America that are progressing on the path of strengthening their independence and social revitalization. For us they are friends and partners in the struggle for peace and better, just relations between peoples.

[Andrianov] On this point I would like to note that success in the struggle for better, just relations between peoples is in fact largely determined by the level of our cooperation with the developing states.

[Volskiy] Moreover, that cooperation is an important component part of the overall efforts to improve the whole international climate. I recall that the current director of the U.S. CIA said just over a year ago that in the near future the Third World would be the chief battlefield, in his opinion, between the USSR and the United States. He did, however, qualify it by saying that he did not necessarily mean this in a military sense. The essence of it, nonetheless, is clear. However, for the Soviet Union such a concept is completely unacceptable, for we have no wish to turn the developing countries into some sort of arena of confrontation. We are seeking there neither raw materials, profits, nor any other privileges -- like the capitalist powers -- nor military bases. It is not we who are exploiting these developing countries.

It is not we who are deriving benefits from the starvation that we now see in Africa for instance. For example, according to the information of Papandreou, the Greek prime minister, a total of 1.5 billion people in the developing countries are suffering from hunger. It is not we who are deriving benefits from that fantastic trillion dollar debt that those countries owe to Western banks.

Whatever you say, all of this is the result of the unequal relations between former colonies and industrial capitalist states. As far as socialist countries are concerned, they proceed from the fact that the resolving of these complex problems is also important from the point of view of justice and, of course, for strengthening peace.

LAST LINE

Moreover, the socialist countries do not at all, as is sometimes maintained in the West, foist on them their own prescriptions for solving the problems. Is it not characteristic, for example, that the Soviet Union has had such stable, solid, mutual relations, such friendly cooperation for many years with nonaligned India, whose social system and political structure is different?

[Andrianov] Yes, and at the meeting between Comrade Gorbachev and Rajiv Gandhi, prime minister of India, the high level, dynamism, and multifaceted nature of fruitfully developing Soviet-Indian relations were noted with satisfaction. The mutual wish was expressed to strengthen them steadfastly.

[Volskiy] This strengthening of relations with India and with other peace-loving nonaligned states is important in order not to allow the hotbeds of the threat of war -- of which, as you know, there are many in the Third World -- to flare up. And in this category there is Central America, and it is indicative that at the meeting between Comrade Gorbachev and Ortega, the president of Nicaragua, high appraisal was given by the Soviet side to Nicaragua's peaceful initiatives. One can also mention in this regard the Iran-Iraq war, which has intensified in the last few days, and a halt to which is demanded by all peace-loving forces. But the most dangerous hotbed remains, I think, the Near East. The Israeli invaders are committing serious military crimes in southern Lebanon. Of course there is no point in moralizing here, but the question arises: What is the Israeli Government counting on? Do they really think that the Arabs will submit to having genocide carried out against them -- in particular, against the Lebanese Muslim Shi'ites, whom they clearly want to drive away from their homes, from southern Lebanon first and foremost, as was once done with a large number of Palestinians, But let us remember that the Palestinian resistance movement arose in response. A powerful and very active movement is now emerging among the Muslim Shi'ites in southern Lebanon, and this is why the Israeli Government is forced to remove troops from southern Lebanon, because it is afraid of the rising casualties.

[Nekrasov] Dmitriy Antonovich, I would like to return to the question that you raised: What can the Tel Aviv regime be reckoning on in carrying out such brutality in areas from which its occupation forces are withdrawing?

[Volskiy] I think it is a presumptuous calculation on frightening the Arabs, a calculation which in the end inevitably rebounds on Israel itself. However, there is the calculation, as they say, to make a blood bond with Washington. This was demonstrated very clearly last week, in particular as regards the support that the United States is giving to Israel at the very moment it is carrying out such crimes in southern Lebanon. This was the veto imposed by the Americans at the Security Council on the resolution that condemned Israeli policy. But another thing is perhaps no less important -- the fact that an American-Israeli agreement has been concluded on a so-called free trade zone, a virtually unprecedented agreement that the United States does not have with any other country, an agreement according to which Israeli goods will go duty-free to the U.S. market. In this way, Washington is now directly -- not just in the form of military and economic assistance -- directly taking on itself the financing of all of Israel's aggressive policy, and consequently, responsibility for the consequences of that policy.

USSR Policies Restated

[Nekrasov] I would like to return to a question that has been repeatedly raised here, namely, the conversations that Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev and other leaders of the party and Soviet state had here with numerous state and party figures from many countries of the world in connection with the demise of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko.

At the moment the press of all these countries is widely reviewing the contents of these meetings. This is understandable. In the present situation, when the world public has focused attention on the question of whether the dangers to the peoples and to peace borne by the arms race will continue to pile up or whether there will be success in finding a way to improving the international situation, the participants in the meetings in Moscow and now the international public, too, are one again receiving an accurate and clear confirmation of the essence of the position of the Soviet Union, with regard to its great and assiduous efforts to continue to concentrate its activity so as to promote an improvement in the political climate in the world and to strive for a change for the better in international affairs. In connection with this it is characteristic that the foreign mass news media are at the moment paying particular attention to the words of Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, in his speech of 13 February [date as heard], about the fact that socialism, as Lenin taught, will prove its advantages. But it will prove them not through the force of weapons, but by the force of example in all areas of society's vital activity. It has also been noted that the Soviet Union, during all of these meetings, once again confirmed its readiness to maintain good-neighborly relations with all countries, on the principles of peaceful coexistence, on the basis of equality and mutually beneficial cooperation.

[Andrianov] On that note we end our meeting at the roundtable. All the participants thank you for your attention, esteemed radio listeners. Goodbye, and all the best to you.

WORLD LEADERS CALL ON SOVIET EMBASSIES

PM151517 [Editorial Report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 15 March 1985 in its First Edition carries on page 5 under the headline "Mark of Respect" a TASS roundup dated 14 March of reports from foreign capitals on local leaders visiting Soviet Embassies to sign the book of condolences and "pay a tribute of profound respect to K.U. Chernenko, outstanding figure of the Communist Party and Soviet state and unbending fighter for the ideals of communism and peace."

The roundup reports the visits of the following figures to embassies in the following capitals (also giving the visitors' titles and in some cases citing the remarks written in the book of condolences): Castro in Havana; Argentine Communist Party Secretary General Fava in Buenos Aires; Al-Asad in Damascus; Ozal, Halefoglu, and Evren in Ankara;

Prime Minister Mzali in Tunis; in Tehran (The following is the text of the report.) "Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati visited the Soviet Embassy in Iran and expressed condolences in connection with K.U. Chernenko's death on behalf of the Government and people of Iran. He made an entry in the book of condolences expressing the hope that the trend toward widening of friendly and good-neighborly relations between the two neighboring countries, Iran and the Soviet Union, will continue to develop in the interests of both countries."

The roundup says that Soviet Embassies were also visited by the "state and government leaders of Cyprus, the Republic of Guinea, Liberia, Burma, Thailand, Malaysia, Bangladesh, and Sudan."

PRAVDA URGES DISARMAMENT, RETURN TO DETENTE

PM151731 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Mar 85 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Following a Course of Peace and Progress"]

[Text] These days the tremendous prestige of the Soviet socialist power and the CPSU's Leninist foreign policy in the modern world has been manifested with special force.

The CPSU Central Committee's extraordinary plenum and the speeches of Comrade M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, are at the center of universal attention. Paying a tribute of respect to K.U. Chernenko's memory, the leaders of the socialist states and leaders of developing and capitalist countries, communist and workers parties, and liberation movements gathered in Moscow. They had meetings with the Soviet leadership during which key problems of world politics and questions of bilateral relations were discussed.

On an international plane, the great significance of this week's events and talks in the Soviet capital is obvious. The peoples, poltical and public circles, and participants in the antiwar struggle abroad were interested in the question of the Soviet approach to problems of world politics. And they received a clear-cut answer.

The strategic line elaborated at the 26th CPSU Congress and subsequent party Central Committee plenums has been and remains immutable. This means that our country will continue to direct all its thoughts toward peaceful creative labor. It means that the Soviet Union's course in the foreign policy sphere is clear and consistent. As was pointed out at the 11 March CPSU Central Committee Plenum, it is a course of peace and progress.

The chief milestones in the foreign policy line of the CPSU and the Soviet state were defined long ago by the great Lenin and his historic Decree on Peace. Socialism is peace. It cannot have any other policy. It is prepared for the competition of the two systems and will prove its own advantages, but it will do so not by force of arms but by force of example in all spheres of society's vital activity. The higher the role and influence of socialism in the world, the more promising the "cause of destroying wars," of which Great October's leader spoke.

It is the first commandment of the CPSU and the Soviet state in foreign policy to cherish and strengthen in every possible way the fraternal friendship with our closest comrades and allies -- the countries of the great socialist community. The common determination to continue improving all-around political interaction and economic, ideological, and other kinds of cooperation, which was expressed 13 March during the CPSU Central Committee general secretary's meeting with the heads of the Warsaw Pact states' party and state delegations, is of great significance. It was emphasized that under the conditions of the complex international situation the strengthening of the fraternal countries' unity and cohesion and the intensified coordination of their actions in the international arena assume special significance. A big response has been elicited in the world by the authoritative statement at the CPSU Central Committee plenum that we would like a serious improvement in relations with the PRC and believe that, given reciprocity, this is perfectly possible.

In the struggle for peace and social progress, Lenin's party will, as always, cooperate closely with the fraternal communist, workers, and revolutionary democratic parties and advocate the unity of all revolutionary forces and their active cooperation. Soviet people voice solidarity with the heroic struggle of the peoples who are replusing "undeclared wars" and the neocolonialist onslaught of imperialism. Our sympathies with the Asian, African, and Latin American countries traveling the path of strengthening independence and social renewal are immutable. They are our friends and partners in the struggle for lasting peace and for better, just international relations.

In relations with capitalist states, the Soviet power will continue to follow firmly Lenin's course of peace and peaceful coexistence. The Soviet Union will always reciprocate goodwill with goodwill and trust with trust. However, we will never waive the interests of the socialist motherland and its allies.

People of goodwill in the world have once again been able to see for themselves that the Soviet Union resolutely advocates the relaxation of international tension. People in our country value its successes in the seventies. The USSR is ready to participate in continuing the process of organizing peaceful, mutually advantageous cooperation among states on the principles of equality, mutual respect, and noninterference in internal affairs. The talks held in Moscow with leading figures of a number of Western states were marked by a readiness to continue and develop the political dialogue and business-like cooperation. Of course, such development would only help to improve the international situation. It would be possible to celebrate worthily the 40th anniversary of the great victory over Hitlerite fascism and Japanese militarism with new steps in this direction.

The liquidation of the terrible threat hanging over mankind remains a task of paramount importance. The only reasonable way out of the prevailing situation is agreement between the opposing forces on an immediate halt to the arms race, primarily the nuclear arms race, on earth and its prevention in space. The Soviet Union is in favor of an honest and equitable accord which would facilitate progress toward the cherished goal -- the total destruction and permanent prohibition of nuclear weapons, and the final elimination of the threat of nuclear war. These objectives also determine the USSR's approach at the Soviet-American talks in Geneva.

Our country proposes an immediate freeze of nuclear arsenals and the cessation of further missile deployment. The world also knows well the USSR's other major constructive initiatives and proposals aimed at ending the arms race and eliminating the threat of a world nuclear catastrophe.

"Our party and state will continue to build up their efforts in this direction and do everything to safeguard peace. We proceed from the premise that the right to live under conditions of peace and freedom is a person's chief right." This so important and clear declaration, which echoed for all the world to hear from Moscow's Red Square, has been received with gratitude and enthusiasm by the peoples.

The consistent and principled course of peace and progress independent of the fluctuating dictates of the situation which is being steadily implemented by the CPSU and the Soviet state, in combination with the determination to repulse any attemtps to impose someone else's will on us, is a most important factor for preserving international stability and security. It enjoys the total support of Soviet people and meets the interests of communist creation and general peace.

EDITORIAL NOTES PEACE POLICY OUTLINED BY PLENUM

PM171454 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Clear and Consistent Course"]

[Text] Constructive dialogue between states with different social systems and practical measures toward reducing international tension and establishing an atmosphere of trust, cooperation, and mutual understanding -- all this made it possible during the seventies to reach important international accords that opened up prospects of further positive shifts in the approach toward real steps in the disarmament sphere. If this was possible in the recent past, what is there to stop [countries] from traveling the same reliable road now, in the eighties? No country or people has lost or will lose; on the contrary, they will only gain if everything sensible, realistic, and constructive necessary to guarantee a peaceful fate for our generation and future generations is enshrined in international relations.

Our country will always respond to goodwill with goodwill and to trust with trust. This thought, voiced from the rostrum of the extraordinary CPSU Central Committee plenum, has aroused great international reaction. It is of special significance in connection with the new Soviet-American talks in Geneva. It is to be hoped that our partners at the talks in Geneva understand the Soviet Union's positon and respond with reciprocity. An agreement will then be possible. The peoples of the world would breathe a sigh of relief.

Proceeding froma consideration of the factors really operating in the international arena, the Soviet Union believes that the 40th anniversary of the great victory over Hitlerite fascism and Japanese militarism would be fittingly celebrated with new steps in the process of organizing mutually advantageous cooperation among states on the basis of the principles of equality, mutual respect, and noninterference in internal affairs.

It was on that kind of just basis, as is well known, that it was possible 10 years ago to successfully complete the All-European Conference on Security and Cooperation on our continent and enshrine the relevant principles and norms in the Helsinki Final Act. Along the other agreements and accords of historic importance, this document forms an impressive foundation for erecting an edifice of lasting peace and security in Europe.

States with different social systems can and must live in a good-neighborly fashion in that edifice, beneath a roof of peace.

In the struggle for the cause of peace and social progress the CPSU pursues a consistent course of rallying the forces of the international communist and workers movement in every possible way. We uphold the historical correctness of the great ideas of Marxism-Leninism and, together with all mankind's revolutionary and peace-loving forces, advocate social progress and the cause of peace.

Our sympathies are invariably on the side of the countries and peoples defending their freedom and independence. The Asian, African, and Latin American countries traveling the path of strengthening independence and social renewal are our friends and partners in the struggle for peace and for better, just relations between peoples. The recent Delhi Declaration by six states confirmed how close the ideas of disarmament, detente, and talks in the name of reliable security are to the hearts of people on those continents. The release of the colossal funds and resources spent on the arms race and their utilization for peaceful civilian purposes would mean for the developing countries a resolute shift in improving their lot and asserting their economic independence.

Our country, our people, and their vanguard -- the Communist Party -- are marching toward new tasks and achievements in the struggle for the interests of peace and progress fully equipped with tremendous historical experience and relying on the might material potential of the Soviet state. The Soviet Union proceeds from the premise that the right to live in conditions of peace and freedom is man's chief right. Proceeding from this premise, our country will continue to seek to remove the threat of a world thermonuclear catastrophe and to do everything to preserve peace. This is our most important goal; this is our course, a Leninist, consistent course that is clear to and understood by everyone.

In the last few days, all mankind has again been able to see for itself the unshakable determination of the CPSU, the Soviet state, and our people to follow the proven Leninist course in their domestic and foreign policy.

The goals of our party, as the leading force of society, are clear and noble.

They found weighty new confirmation in the appeal of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the USSR Council of Ministers to the Communist Party and the Soviet people and in the documents of the extraordinary CPSU Central Committee Plenum held 11 March.

In the foreign policy sphere, these goals arise organically from the large-scale creative tasks of communist building, which are connected, as CPSU documents stress, with the line of accelerating our motherland's socioeconomic development and improving all aspects of Soviet society's life. Profound transformations must be implemented in the economy and the entire system of social relations and a qualitatively higher living standard must be ensured for Soviet people.

Socialism does not need war or the arms race. We firmly advocate that tomorrow not be darkened by the stormclouds of war alerts and that our planet not be burdened with mountains of weapons. For the sake of these goals, the Soviet Union, together with the fraternal socialist states and all peace-loving forces, is acting on the immense front of struggle to eliminate the threat of war and is putting forward constructive initiatives in an endeavor to fundamentally improve international relations.

However, no one must have any doubts as to our determination to deal a firm rebuff to any encroachments on our vital interests or positions inseparable from the defense of the interests of the entire socialist community. Our country has and will continue to have everything necessary for this. The Soviet Union threatens no one and does not seek military superiority, but it will not allow any other country or coalition of states to obtain such superiority.

The CPSU and the Soviet state regard it as their first commandment to strengthen in every way the friendship with our closest comrades-in-arms and allies -- the socialist community countries -- to expand cooperation with them, and to enhance socialism's role and influence in world affairs. Together with them we are creating the new, socialist world and a historically unprecedented type of truly just and equal relations among states.

The developing multifacted cooperation among the socialist community countries makes it possible to resolve the most complex tasks, including in the key sphere of socialism's economic competition with capitalism. Our party never loses sight of Lenin's remark that socialism has exerted and continues to exert its main influence on world development by force of example -- via its economic policy and via successes in the socioeconomic sphere. Each new step forward along this historic path is a persuasive argument in favor of socialism.

Socialism is peace. In recent days the call to all governments and social forces to seek an immediate end to the arms race -- especially the nuclear arms race -- on earth and prevent an arms race in space has rung out from Moscow with new force. Soviet people see the reaching of such an accord -- an accord on an honest and equal basis -- as the way to totally destroy nuclear weapons and prohibit them forever, and therefore to eliminate the threat of war.

REAGAN DEPARTS FOR CANADA; NORAD, NATO ON AGENDA

LD170211 Moscow TASS in English 1945 GMT 17 Mar 85

[Text] Washington March 17 TASS -- TASS correspondent Aleksandr Shalnev reports:

President Reagan leaves on a two-day visit to Canada. This is the first trip abroad of the U.S. President since the beginning of this second term in office. He will be accompanied on the visit by Secretary of State George Shultz and Secretary of Defence Caspar Weinberger.

Washington hopes that the visit will help involve Canada heavier in its militaristic preparations, above all in outer space. It was resported that on March 18 the U.S. defence secretary and Canada's minister of national defence will sign an agreement on the programme of "modernisation" in the framework of NORAD -- the North American Air Defence Command. The key element of this programme is setting up in Canada's Arctic districts of actually a new radar system, which, as it is intimated, must become a composite part of a large-scale ABM system with elements of space basing now worked out by the United States.

Pronoucements of the administration's representatives also show that Canada will be required to make a more "effective" contribution to NATO through a sharp stepping up of military spendings whose level does not satisfy Washington so far. It should be noted that the United States at the same time actually vetoed any initiatives which Canada could make in the sphere of arms control. Observers recall in this connection Washington's sharply negative attitude to a series of initiatives of former Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau who made insistent calls to take immediate measures to curb the nuclear arms race. A spokesman for the White House made it plain that Washington would not tolerate such "self-dependency".

Questions of commercial and economic relations and the problem of "acid rains" which arose in connection with the continued pollution of the atmosphere by U.S. industrial enterprises were put on the agenda of the coming talks on the insistence of the Canadian side. But statements made by representatives of the Washington administration on the eve of the visit leave no doubt that the United States has no intention of discussing these questions in earnest. Thus, the solution of the problem of "acid rains" will be put off again under the pretext of the need of additional research.

U.S. ATTEMPTS TO ECONOMICALLY HURT USSR BACKFIRE

LD162146 Moscow TASS in English 2104 GMT 16 Mar 85

["A Venture That Bears No Promise" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow March 16 TASS -- Washington's attempts at exhausting the USSR by means of the arms race have boomeranged [as received] the United States itself, a TASS correspondent was told by Aleksandr Berkan, a Soviet economist.

Recalling Special Directive 75 of the U.S. National Security Council, which was signed by President Reagan two years ago, he pointed out that the directive organically combines the ambition of the White House to ensure military superiority with the hope to deplete the material, financial and intellectual resources of the USSR and of the other socialist states through forcing new rounds of the arms race on them.

But even a cursory glance at history shows, the Soviet scholar stressed, that such attempts are futile. The socialist economic system reliably ensures a sound balance of economic, political and military priorities.

A graphic example of that is the mobilization of the Soviet economy during the Second World War. The Soviet Union's victory over nazism was ensured not only by lend-lease supplies, as some unscrupulous historians in the West are trying to claim (they made less than four per cent of the Soviet arms manufacture), but the USSR's economic might.

Our country, Aleksandr Berkan pointed out, succeeded in speedily putting the economy on the military footing. During the years of the Second World War the USSR manufactured in one million tons of steel count by fifty per cent more planes than Britain; by 160 per cent more than Germany and 220 per cent more than the USA. [sentence as received] The USSR made three times as many tanks and self-propelled gun mounts than Germany, almost four times as many as Britain, 6.3 times more than the USA. It also produced four times as many artillery pieces than Germany, 5.4 more than Britain and 7.7 more than the USA.

It can be confidently said that the current attempts of President Reagan's administration at upsetting the rough equilibrium of forces, which shaped in the world, and ensure military superiority over the Soviet Union, are also doomed to a failure. The USSR has a sufficient potential to prevent that.

Meanwhile, the arms race unleashed by the White House is a heavy burden on the United States economy. The USA now ranks eleventh on the list of the 13 major capitalist countries as regards its economic development rates. Nevertheless, Washington's military spendings in the current year will reach 292.9 billion, and next year -- already 323 billion dollars. It must be noted that they are conducive to a loss of a considerable part of the public funds, which cannot be reproduced ever. While a mere three years ago, 3,000 dollars on an average were taken out of the budget of an American family, next year this figure will be 5,300 dollars.

Thus the striving of the White House to bleed the USSR white by means of the arms race has hit the United States itself. Arms manufacture brings profit only to the moneybags of the military-industrial complex, while relentlessly increasing the number of Americans living below the official poverty line.

TASS REPORTS U.S. LABOR SECRETARY'S RESIGNATION

LD152340 Moscow TASS in English 2329 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Text] Washington March 16 TASS -- U.S. Secretary of Labour Raymond Donovan has resigned after the judicial authorities of New York State refused to dismiss a series of charges brought against him.

Donovan who is reckoned one of the closest friends of the President is known to have been charged with most serious crimes, including connections with Mafia and bribery. The number of facts corroborating the charges proved enough for the judicial authorities to deem it necessary to institute criminal proceedings against the labour secretary. But while the case was being prepared for being brought before the law, Donovan, making use of his wide connections, tried to secure the dimissal of the charges. In this he failed. So, not without prompting from the White House to which the Donovan case became a considerable political burden, the labour secretary took a decision to resign.

STATE DEPARTMENT BARS GELB FOR DEPLOYMENT LEAK

LD171337 Moscow TASS in English 1306 GMT 17 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 17 TASS -- "Lieutenant-General John Chain Junior, head of the bureau of politico-military affairs of the U.S. State Department, has ordered not to let Leslie Gelb set his foot on the threshold of the State Department", Aleksandr Palladin, IZVESTIYA's Washington correspondent writes. "It should be noted here that Leslie Gelb was at the head of precisely that bureau in 1977-1979", the correspondent writes.

"So how came that Leslie Gelb drew the State Department's anger on himself? The matter is that Leslie Gelb left the bureau to work for THE NEW YORK TIMES and published an article in the newspaper on the Pentagon's secret intention to deploy nuclear munitions in Canada, the Philippines, Spain, Puerto Rico, Iceland, the Azores and the Bermuda Islands. An unpleasant revelation, to say the least, that was for Washington, especially that the latter had concealed its plan both from the Americans and from the governments and peoples of the countries which it concerned."

"Nevertheless", says the dispatch, "Gelb did not divulge any secrets and did not break any laws, since he only repeated what millions of people living outside the United States had been aware of since late last year. Providing further evidence that sooner or later everything that is concealed will eventually become known, American scientist Arkin last December made public documents, which had fallen into his possession and testified that those states were assigned the role of the Pentagon's hostages."

"Arkin made the disclosure in Western Europe, where it touched off quite an uproar", Palladin writes. "The echo of the scandal reached as far as the United States. But the U.S. 'free press', notorious for its taste for sensations, preferred to act like the three fairy-tale monkeys which follow the principle 'I see nothing, I hear nothing, I will say nothing'. So it was heard from others about the ominous plan of the White House and was barred for this from the State Department."

U.S. TO BASE NUCLEAR SHIPS ON STATEN ISLAND

LD152356 Moscow TASS in English 2300 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Text] New York March 15 TASS -- The U.S. Department of the Navy has officially announced that Staten Island located in New York harbour has been chosen as a site for permanent station of a task force of nuclear-capable combatant ships. The Pentagon is planning to station seven ships there, including the battleship "Iowa", a cruiser, three destroyers and two frigates. The first group of ships will arrive at Staten Island already in three years' time.

The decision of the U.S. Navy has given rise to a storm of protests on the part of the New York public who have been waging a struggle for two years against the conversion of the harbour of the largest U.S. city into a naval base of the Pentagon. The Coalition for a Nuclear-Free Harbour has announced that it will file a suit with judicial authorities with a view to preventing the realisation of the Pentagon's plan.

TASS REPORTS UNDERGROUND U.S. NUCLEAR EXPLOSION

LD160853 Moscow TASS in English 0819 GMT 16 Mar 85

[Text] New York March 16 TASS -- The United States has staged another underground test of a nuclear device at a military testing range in Nevada State, UPI news agency reported quoting the U.S. Department of Energy. The yield of the exploded device was from 20 to 150 kilotons.

BEIRUT EMBASSY EVACUATION LINKED TO NAVAL PRESENCE

LD151545 Moscow World Service in English 1410 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Viktor Olin commentary]

[Excerpts] It has been announced in Washington that part of the staff of the U.S. Embassy in Lebanon has been evacuated from Beirut. Viktor Olin comments:

The official version is that the American diplomats were evacuated from Beirut due to concern about their safety, but in fact the evacuation was intended to push the claim currently advertised by Washington about so-called international terrorism being the primary cause of the existing tensions in Lebanon and in the Middle East in general. The U.S. Administration is advertising this idea, seeking to make people believe that the outbursts of violence and the explosive situation in the area result exclusively from the actions of extremist elements.

So another attempt is being made to justify the opposition of the United States and its strategic ally, Israel, to the efforts for a political settlement in Lebanon. The attempt is also intended to keep intact Israel's aggressive course with regard to its Arab neighbors and to create a pretext for the United States to pursue its policy of threats and the use of military force in the region. But the developments in the past few days show beyond doubt that the bloodshed and tensions in and around Lebanon are due to other factors.

But Israel's acts of terrorism did not cause Washington to comment about international terrorism. What is more, the U.S. representative used his right of veto again at the United Nations Security Council, blocking a resolution that condemned Israel's aggressive policy and repressive actions in the south of Lebanon. The outburst of general indignation, first of all in the Arab world, was used by the American Administration as a pretext for sending nuclear aircraft carrier Eisenhower and the missile cruiser Mississippi to the eastern Mediterranean.

The evacuation of American diplomats from Beirut was undoubtedly meant to substantiate even more the arguments in favor of the American warships' presence off the Lebanese coast.

The United States is paying a high price for its policy in the Middle East. It actually finds itself in isolation, which was proved by the recent debate at the UN Security Council and by other forums. But what is more, the Washington leadership bears grave responsibility for creating the impasse in the efforts for a Middle East settlement, which has a negative effect on the overall situation in the world. This shows once again that the U.S. Administration's talk about the wish to work for a peaceful solution of major problems is not substantiated with any specific deeds.

TASS ANALYST ON U.S. SUPPORT FOR AFGHAN REBELS

LD151916 Moscow TASS in English 1751 GMT 15 Mar 85

["Who Backs Bandits in Afghanistan?" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow March 15 TASS -- By TASS political news analyst Askold Biryukov:

Addressing a celebration meeting to mark the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, held in Kabul early this year, General Secretary of the Party Central Committee and chairman of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan Babrak Karmal pointed to the obvious and stubborn aspiration of imperialism and international reaction to prevent the existence of free and progressive Afghanistan, to stifle the Afghan revolution. "Hundreds of millions of dollars, pounds and marks," he said, "are spent on establishing, training and arming counter-revolutionary gangs, on providing them with modern, including heavy, weapons, on conducting outrageous and mendacious anti-Afghan propaganda and deluding world public opinion."

Trained in camps on Pakistani territory from which aggressive actions are conducted against Afghanistan, on territories of some other countries, including the United States, these bandits are then sent into Afghanistan where they attempt to destabilize the situation and prevent the Afghan people from building their life as they want. Imperialist-backed bandits inflict great damage to Afghanistan. The civilian population suffers great casualties, with old men, women and children being murdered by bullet and knife, by poison and explosives.

It was not today or yesterday that the undeclared war was started against Afghanistan. It was during the previous U.S. Administration, soon after the 1978 April Revolution, that the CIA started organizing with President Carter's blessing Afghan counter-revolutionary rabble in Pakistan training them to handle modern weapons, methods of sabotage and terror, and sending bandits to Afghanistan. With the advent to power by the present administration, armed outside interference in Afghan affairs became particularly large-scale. Bandits who had been sent into Afghanistan destroyed schools and hospitals, demolished industrial enterprises and peasants' cooperatives, blew up bridges and electric power transmission lines, irrigation facilities, cultural monuments and even mosques. American allocations for expanding the scope of these criminal actions were snowballing.

Selig Harrison, one of the leading figures in the Carnegie Endowment, pointed out recently in the NEWSDAY newspaper that America's "overt" aid to Afghan bandits grew six-fold since 1980. U.S. Congress set aside for these purposes as many as 280 million dollars this year.

It is no longer believed in Washington that it is necessary to hide its growing interference in Afghan affairs. The bandits, whose hands are stained with blood of their fellow-countrymen, are welcomed in Washington. They are described there as none other than "freedom fighters" or "fighters for faith", although the freedom they are fighting for is the freedom to rob and murder, and the faith is the conviction that money (no matter from where it comes), they are paid with for their crimes, does not smell.

They in Washington do not conceal what prompts their good attitude towards out-and-out terrorists and saboteurs.

The outgoing permanent ambassador of the United States to the U.N., Jeane Kirkpatrick, said the other day in Congress at "hearings on Afghanistan" that the country is of extremely great importance for the United States for "geostrategic reasons"; and Washington's support for Afghan counter-revolution is necessary above all from the "geopolitical viewpoint". It is obvious that they in Washington are in no way embarrassed to use the bandits from the camp of Afghan counter-revolution as long as they ensure the administration's geostrategic calculations in the region of south west Asia. It is becoming ever more obvious, THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR wrote recently, that the U.S. Government is not really interested in ending the war in Afghanistan and, probably, even sees some benefit in extending it. It is the continuation and even expansion of the undeclared war against Afghanistan which "interest" the administration the more so, for unlike in Vietnam, Washington finds it "more advantageous" to wage the war by proxy of the bandits that are doomed to annihiliation.

U.S. HYPROCRITICAL ATTITUDE TO CHILE UNCONVINCING

LD151847 Moscow TASS in English 1733 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 15 TASS -- TASS commentator Ruslan Knyazev writes:

The World Bank granted on Thursday a credit of 11 million dollars to the Chilean regime. The Pinochet dictatorship got the loan following a big credit of 130 million dollars which was granted to it recently by the Inter-American Development Bank. Reporting this, Western news agencies build up in every way the fact that U.S. representatives at the boards of those international banks abstained when the vote was taken on granting credits to Chile. The Washington administration seeks to present such a stand as "a symbolic gesture" called upon to demonstrate "anxiety" of the White House at the state of siege in Chile, its desire to "assist" Chile's return to the democratic system.

The aim of that propaganda campaign of official Washington is clear. This is an attempt to adapt to new conditions in Chile so as to direct the developments in that country into a channel suitable to the United States. The White House, which had put the Chilean dictator in power and which propped it up for many years, is now building up its imaginary devotion to "democratization" in Chile.

This is not certainly renunciation of support for the Pinochet regime. It is not accidental that Assistant Secretary for Inter-American Affairs Langhorne Motley, who recently visited Santiago, praised Pinochet highly. Now when the struggle against the dictatorship in Chile involves still broader strata of the population, the White House wants to attract to its side a certain part of the opposition in Chile. That caused "symbolic gestures" in the Washington-controlled international financial institutions which actually change nothing in the previous practice of regular dollars' injections to Pinochet. But such hypocritical contrivances convince nobody, either in Chile itslef or beyond it. Very close links between the Chilean dictator and his Washington supporters are known too well to the whole world. The White House will not succeed in its attempts "to save face" in that disgraceful deed.

BUSH CALLS FOR EXPANSION OF AID TO HONDURAS

LD180030 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 17 Mar 85

[Text] The United States will continue to regard Honduras as a forward post in its aggressive intrigues against Nicaragua.

During a brief visit to that country U.S. Vice President Bush called for the expansion of U.S. military and economic assistance to the Honduran regime, which, as the guest from Washington trumpeted, is in the frontline of the struggle against communist penetration of Central America. According to press reports, over 10,000 heavily armed mercenaries are based in Honduras. Most of them are former members of the Somoza regime's National Guard.

U.S. MAGAZINE ACCUSES GOVERNMENT OF KAL COVERUP

PM151120 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 15 Mar 85 p 3

[TASS report: "What Was Hidden Become Clear"]

[Text] New York, 14 Mar -- The destruction of the U.S. Air Force tape recording of information on the flight of the South Korean Boeing which intruded into USSR airspace in September 1983 has again drawn the U.S. public's attention to the circumstances surrounding this monstrous provocation by the U.S. special services. The NATION magazine terms the operation to cover up and subsequently destroy the tape evidence that the U.S. Government is concealing the truth about this espionage act.

Immediately after the "incident," the NATION points out, the USAF regional operations command center at Anchorage, Alaska, which was holding the tape, was instructed to send all its materials on the flight to USAF Headquarters in Washington. From there they were sent to the State Department, where they were classified as secret. The fact that the most important part of the materials -- the tape recording of information on the plane's flight path -- was destroyed has just become known in the course of a court hearing of a suit filed against the U.S. Government by the relatives of the dead passengers.

You need not be particularly perspicacious to realize why the tape was destroyed, the NATION writes. The magazine notes that from the very outset the U.S. Administration had kept secret all the information concerning the spy plane's flight. Thus, the recording of the conversation between the Boeing crew and ground tracking stations has not been made public. As is well known, a whole number of leading U.S. experts have published material in the press testifying to the fact that the provocative operation of sending the plane into USSR airspace was planned with direct CIA participation.

The NATION recalls that last August it published the results of an independent investigation conducted by D. Pearson, a specialist in U.S. military command and control systems from Yale University. He drew up 17 questions for the U.S. Government on its role [rol poslednego] in the plane "incident." Official Washington has not replied to a single one of these questions, the magazine stresses. In fact, the NATION has been attacked, particularly by Assistant Secretary of State R. Burt.

With the tape's destruction being made public, the article says, yet another question has been added to those already unanswered.

LI PENG COMMENTS ON DEVELOPING USSR-PRC RELATIONS

LD171041 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Mar 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Information in RENMIN RIBAO"]

[Text] RENMIN RIBAO has published the XINHUA agency report about the meeting of Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and Li Peng, vice premier of the PRC State Council which took place a few days ago in Moscow. Li Peng conveyed cordial congratulations and best wi shes from CPC Central Committee General Secretary Hu Yaobang in connection with M.S. Gorbachev's election as CPSU Central Committee general secretary.

Li Peng said in particular that China agrees with the statement made by Comrade Gorbachev at the extraordinary plenum of the CPSU Central Committee about the desirability of a substantial improvement in USSR-PRC relations. China, Li Peng stressed, is ready to assist the further development of relations between the two countries in the political, economic, scientific-technical, and cultural spheres. Such a development is very important both for China and the Soviet Union, the two great neighbors and socialist countries, Li Peng said, adding that improving Sino-Soviet relations is beneficial not only for the peoples of the two countries but would also contribute to peace in Asia and the whole world.

COMMENTARY ON GORBACHEV'S WISH FOR IMPROVED TIES

OW151037 Moscow in Mardarin to China 0700 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Commentary by (Lodzhinov): "Strengthen the Unity of Socialist Countries"]

[Text] The firmness, constructiveness, and continuity of Soviet foreign policy and its principled nature are again clearly shown in the speech delivered by Comrade Gorbachev at the CPSU Central Committee plenum. Dear Chinese listeners, this is the main comment made by the foreign press. For instance, the British bourgeois newspaper THE DAILY TELEGRAPH pointed out: The characteristics of the Soviet leader's foreign policy are explicitness and continuty.

The Soviet Union has never concealed the essence of its foriegn policy and strategy, has it concealed their basic orientation. Soviet foreign policy and strategy were formulated by the 26th CPSU Congress and ensuing plenums of the CPSU Central Committee. They are designed to prevent the threat of nuclear war and ensure an atmosphere of trust, cooperation, and mutual understanding among all countries and peoples of the world. The Soviet Union has always regarded the strengthening of unity among socialist countries as an important guarantee for peace.

In his speech at the CPSU Central Committee plenum, Comrade Gorbachev said: The first precept of the party and the state is to preserve and strengthen in every possible way the fraternal friendship with out closest comrades-in-arms, the countries of the great socialist community.

The general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee emphatically pointed out: We will do everything to expand cooperation with all socialist states and to enhance the influence of socialism in world affairs. We would like a great [da da di] improvement in relations with the People's Republic of China and believe that, given reciprocity, this is entirely possible.

Dear Chinese listeners, I think the above quoted remarks will make you understand the importance the Soviet Union attaches to promoting mutual understanding between our two neighboring socialist countries. At the same time, I am convinced that the Soviet Union's policy of uniting with all socialist countries and its policy of seeking a great improvement in relations with China will enjoy due understanding and a correct appraisal among the Chinese people.

We should remember that there has never been any contradiction between the working peoples of our two countries over major fundamental interests. The fundamental interests of the Soviet and Chinese peoples were identical in the past, and they still are now. The peoples of both countries share the same hopes to develop steady, mutually beneficial ties in all fields. They hope to realize large-scale economic construction plans in an international environment of lasting peace. It should be said here that the Soviet and Chinese people have a rich experience of close cooperation. Of course, the Chinese people have not forgotten a fact -- to a great extent, it was because of such cooperation that China was able to lay an initial foundation for socialism in a very short time under complex international conditions in the 1950's. The peoples of our two countries also remember the years when the Soviet Union and China coordinated with each other on the international stage. They also remember how such coordination promoted peace, strengthened the socialist position, and counterattacked imperialist schemes of aggression, including their anti-China schemes. Under the present international situation, the Soviet Union's consistent policy of improving relations with China is an important component of the policy of the CPSU and the Soviet Union to enhance the role and influence of socialism in world affairs.

Many things in the world depend on unity among the socialist countries. We should know that it is the Soviet Union and other socialist countries that always seek peace and advocate the development of international relations on the basis of peaceful coexistence, not on the basis of military and political confrontation between the two opposite social systems.

In his speech at the CPSU Central Committee plenum Comrade Gorbachev emphasized the determination of the Soviet Union to firmly adhere to Lenin's policy of peace and peaceful coexistence. This determination is clearly shown in a proposal made by the Soviet Union to the United States for reaching an agreement on an immediate halt to the arms race, especially the nuclear arms race, on the earth and on the prevention of an arms race in space.

The Soviet proposal can help all people attain their desired goal -- the destruction of all nuclear weapons, a permanent ban on nuclear weapons, and the complete elimination of the threat of nuclear war.

Dear Chinese listeners, the CPSU's foreign policy and strategy are almost identical to the aspirations of the peoples of all countries and are understood by them. The Soviet foreign policy is open and sincere. The Japanese newspaper MAINICHI has pointed out: The Soviet leaders are continuing a foreign policy which has the clear and definite objective of peaceful coexistence and ensuring security for the peoples of all countries. In order to achieve this objective, it is very important to strengthen unity among all socialist countries, strive to improve Soviet-Chinese relations, and enhance the international influence of socialism.

LAST LINE

GORBACHEV-NAKASONE TALKS, JAPANESE TIES EXAMINED

OW161319 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Georgiyev commentary]

[Text] At the CPSU Central Committee Extraordinary Plenum on 11 March 1985, Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the Central Committee, affirmed the continuity and consistency of Soviet foreign policy, including its policy on capitalist countries. General Secretary Gorbachev said: We shall persistently carry out Lenin's peace-oriented policy and his policy on peaceful coexistence. The Soviet Union will always respond to goodwill with goodwill, and to trust with trust. We shall now broadcast a commentary by commentator Georgiyev of Radio Moscow.

This principled stand can also be fully applied to the Soviet policy on Japan. As can be observed from past progress, the Soviet policy on Japan has been consistent without any influence from [words indistinct] and short-term changes. The Soviet policy is to promote relations of good-neighborliness and mutually beneficial cooperation with Japan. The Soviet Union has always demonstrated its adherence to this policy by offering various practical proposals for implementing it.

Let us cite a few examples of these proposals. As early as 1978, the Soviet Union proposed the signing of a treaty of cooperation [words indistinct] to Japan in an effort to consolidate Soviet-Japanese relations. In 1981, the Soviet Union made another proposal to jointly work out measures to strengthen trust in the Far East. It was an initiative instrumental in stabilizing the regional situation and in improving the atmosphere for relations between the two countries. Furthermore, in 1982 the Soviet Union proposed a treaty between the two countries officially putting in writing the Soviet pledge not to resort to nuclear weapons against Japan and the Japanese pledge to observe the non-nuclear principles.

All these proposals, together with another made long ago on signing a treaty on the principle of economic cooperation for the purpose of working out plans for long-term economic cooperation, are still in effect. It is clear that a positive response on the Japanese side to all these and other constructive proposals would be duly taken into account by the Soviet side.

The principled consistency of the Soviet policy on Japan was once again revealed at the meeting between CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Gorbachev and Prime Minister Nakasone on 14 March. General Secretary Gorbachev stated: The Soviet Union is ready to promote mutually beneficial exchanges in various fields with Japan, and the Soviet Union maintains that the two countries should enjoy good-neighborly relations. He also pointed out that the Soviet Union is ready to take many practical measures concerning this.

Moreover, in response to Prime Minister Nakasone's remarks that Japan also wants improved relations with the Soviet Union, General Secretary Gorbachev stressed that it would be important to remove the confusion and restrictions artificially created by Japan that have hampered the development of relations between the two countries. He also stressed that the substantial implementation of a peace-loving policy by Japan would conform to the improved good-neighborly relations.

The talks between General Secretary Gorbachev and Prime Minister Nakasone was an important event in Soviet-Japanese relations. It was the first meeting between top leaders in over 11 years. The meeting indicates that the signs of an active political exchange between the two countries since the latter half of last year have been strengthened, and that it is consequently helpful in improving the atmosphere for overall Soviet-Japanese relations.

What is important is that the political dialogue between the two countries will bring practical results in improving relations between the two countries for the benefit of the people of both countries and for peace and security in the Far East, as well as in the whole of Asia.

ANNIVERSARY OF AGREEMENT WITH DPRK MARKED

Moscow Evening

LD152247 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1130 GMT 15 Mar 85

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] The Muscovite public has marked the 36th anniversary of the agreement on economic and cultural cooperation between the Soviet Union and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. An evening was devoted to the event in the House of Friendship. The agreement has made an important contribution to the development of equal and mutually beneficial cooperation between our two countries, based on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism. Kwon Hui-kyong, ambassador of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the USSR, spoke at the event.

Pyongyang Meeting

SK180336 Moscow International Service in Korean 1330 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Text] According to a (?TASS) report filed from Pyongyang, a meeting was held in Pyongyang yesterday on the occasion of the 36th anniversary of the concluding of the Soviet-DPRK agreement on economic and cultural cooperation.

At the meeting, Comrade Kim Yong-chae, member of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea, minister of communications of the DPRK, and chairman of the Central Committee of the Korea-Soviet Friendship Society, made a speech at the meeting. He said that the Soviet-DPRK agreement on economic and cultural cooperation has great significance in consolidating and developing the friendship between the peoples of the Soviet Union and Korea and the relations between (?the two countries). Comrade Kim Yong-chae said: We express deep gratitude to the Communist Party, the Government, and people of the Soviet Union, which are actively supporting the Korean people's struggle to force the withdrawal of the U.S. forces from South Korea and achieve the fatherland's independent and peaceful reunification. We are filled with the determination to consolidate Soviet-Korean relations on the basis of the Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism in the future as well.

DPRK PROTESTS U.S. DEMARCATION LINE VIOLATIONS

PM150901 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Resolute Protest"]

[Text] Pyongyang, 13 Mar -- According to KCNA, a DPRK spokesman has voiced a resolute protest in the Korean Military Armistice Commission over repeated gross violations of the provisions of the armistic agreement by U.S. servicemen in Panmunjom. Such actions, the DPRK spokesman emphasized, considerably complicate the situation in the demarcation line area and hamper the peaceful reunification of Korea.

The report notes that the DPRK spokesman demanded a detailed investigation into the U.S. servicemen's provocative escapades and appropriate measures to prevent similar incidents in the future.

AFGHANISTAN DENOUNCES PAKISTANI, U.S. ACTIONS

Pakistani Envoy Summoned

LD172147 Moscow TASS in English 2049 GMT 17 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Kabul March 17 TASS -- According to the BAKHTAR news agency, Pakistan charge d'affaires in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan was called to the Foreign Ministry of DRA. A protest was made to him there in connection with a sharp intensification of late of raids and armed provocations by Pakistani military units deployed opposite to the populated centre Barikot in the Afghan Province Kunar. These units are constantly shelling Barikot from heavy guns, causing large material damage and loss of life. Thus, as a result of the raid on the garrison and residential districts of Barikot on March 6, one civilian was killed, 11 others were gravely wounded, five houses were destroyed.

Condemning these numerous acts of aggression, the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan declares that the Pakistani authorities must put an immediate end to armed provocations against Afghanistan.

Press Conference Held

LD180006 Moscow TASS in English 2153 GMT 17 Mar 85

[Text] Kabul March 17 TASS -- A press-conference for local and foreign journalists was held in the Afghan capital. It was pointed out at the press-conference that the Reagan administration assumed direct guidance of the undeclared war against revolutionary Afghanistan. It provides every year hundreds of millions of dollars for arming, training and bringing armed counter-revolutionary units into Afghanistan's territory.

According to reports of the U.S. press, even a special fund has been set up for this dirty war waged at the bid and with direct guidance of the CIA. A statement of the BAKHTAR news agency read out at the press-conference says that late in 1984 U.S. advisers in more than 120 camps of Afghan counter-revolution on Pakistan's territory numbered 318 people. And their number is constantly growing. Bandits are being trained in various areas of the world -- at U.S. military bases in different parts of the world. A school for training bandits is being set up in the United States. The USA is intensively drawing in the anti-Afghan activity its allies.

In the current Afghan year alone, Saudi Arabia which follows in the wake of the U.S. policy in the region granted 100 million dollars to Afghan bandits. The PRC and Israel intend to provide to the counter-revolutionaries weapons and equipment to a sum of over 500 million dollars. Cairo and Islamabad take an active part in the aggression of imperialism and reaction against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. Islamabad agreed to the creation on its territory by specialists from the CIA a special school for training officers for Afghan counter-revolution. Pakistani instructors and agents of the security service participate actively in the training of counter-revolutionaries and help bring them into Afghanistan's territory. For purposes of increasing subversion against the DRA, Pakistan agreed to the plans to build on its territory powerful retransmitting facilities for "Liberty" and "Free Europe" subversive radio stations.

A certain Fahruddin Gausu spoke at the press-conference. He had been recruited by the CIA to perform special assignments on the territory of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. At a secret address in Tehran he had been trained by Americans in the use of toxic agents of different type and effect.

He spoke about agents for poisoning drinking water at institutions, in schools, at bath-houses and for poisoning water for ablutions at mosques, for poisoning food products in stores, for affecting people in public transport and cinema houses and also about miniature explosive devices camouflaged as cigarettes, toys, etc.

The security bodies of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan apprehended the criminal at a time when he was in contact with a CIA agent working in the U.S. Embassy in Kabul.

Mantaz Muhammad Navaz, former member of the Pakistani special service SID [Special Intelligence Division] who had voluntarily broken with the dirty anti-Afghan activity of the Pakistani special services spoke about how leaders of the Afghan counter-revolutionaries are courted, backed and even guarded in Pakistan by the special services of that country. And this being done at the bid of Americans and quite often with their direct participation, Mamtaz stressed. He spoke about brutal torture to which Afghans seized on the territory of the DRA had been subjected in a prison in Peshawar. An American "adviser" supervised the torture.

Journalists were shown samples of fire arms and heavy armaments seized from counter-revolutionaries, most arms of the U.S. makes, photographs attesting to the criminal activity of counter-revolution on the territory of DRA. They were also shown a documentary film about how the United States calls officially for the aid to counter-revolutionaries and about the loss of life among the Afghan people resulting from this "aid."

ADVANCES IN AFGHANISTAN SINCE REVOLUTION NOTED

LD160818 Moscow TASS in English 0626 GMT 16 Mar 85

[Text] Kabul March 15 TASS -- TASS correspondent Vladimir Volkodov reports:

On the eve of the new year, which begins in Afghanistan on March 21, the Council of Ministers of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan has discussed at its regular session a plan to hold elections to jergas and local councils. Representative local bodies of state power are being set up for the first time in the centuries-old history of Afghanistan. The popular masses participate most directly in forming them. Under the law on the local bodies of state power and government, adopted by the DRA's Revolutionary Council, all citizens of the Republic reaching the age of 18 have a right to vote and are eligible for election without any discrimination whatsoever. Thus, the new year 1364 in the Afghan calendar will become a memorable milestone along the road of development and progress. The April Revolution of 1978 has become a turning point in the history of Afghanistan. It drew the line under centuries of the oppression and rightlessness of the Afghan people and opened before the country a road of democratic development and progress. A new political system has been set up in the DRA over the years that have passed since. The People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan uniting and expressing the interests of the working people, peasantry, intelligentsia and all national-democratic forces of the country is the core of this system.

More than 300,000 former landless and land-hungry peasant families have been provided with land and water by the state. The process of land redistribution in going on. The April Revolution has made a reality what was the age-old dream of the rural worker about land. Elective rural councils are being set up throughout Afghanistan. The cooperative society, which helps the peasants to tackle many problems related to supply, output and marketing of produce, is striking deeper roots in the life of the Afghan countryside.

The activities of trade unions and other mass organisations of the Afghan working people gain in scope. They united hundreds upon hundreds of leading representatives of the working class, peasantry and national intelligentsia. The national fatherland front, which is the embodiment of the striving of many generations of Afghans for the unity of action of the patriotic forces, all nationalities of the country in the name of happiness and prosperity of the homeland, has become a support of the revolutionary power.

The People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the government focus their attention on questions of raising the living standard of the working people. Workers and employees of the state sector, which is the core of the national economy, had their wages substantially raised twice in the recent years. The state gradually starts bearing the expenditures involved in providing housing for industrial workres. It grants large subsidies to keep prices of prime necessities and public transport fare at a stable level. Hospital accommodation in the country has grown by 84 per cent over the period that has passed since the revolution, and the number of doctors -- by 45 per cent. The medical service in state-run hospitals has practically become free. The number of children attending school and adults who learnt to read and write is constantly on the rise. All these and other measures contribute to expanding the social basis of the revolutionary transformations in the DRA. The popular masses are getting involved more and more actively in deciding the country's destiny. They actively participate in the armed defence of their gains against imperialism's intrigues.

BANGLADESH OFFICIAL ATTENDS CHERNENKO FUNERAL

BK160326 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 16 Mar 85

[Text] The deputy chief martial law administrator [DCMLA], Rear Admiral Sultan Ahmed, now in Moscow has expressed the confidence that cooperation and friendship between Bangladesh and the Soviet Union will get an added dimension in the coming days. He expressed this hope at a meeting with the deputy chief chairman of the state committee for foreign economic relations, Mr V.I. Litvinenko, in Moscow yesterday. Admiral Sultan Ahmed said the two countries will go forward in new areas of fruitful and mutually beneficial cooperation.

The DCMLA, who went there to attend President Chernenko's funeral, also hoped that the Soviet Union will reach new heights of progress and prosperity with the new dynamic and youthful leader as the general secretary of the Soviet Communist Party. The Soviet deputy chairman thanked him for expression of deep condolences on the death of President Chernenko and promised all out help and cooperation to improve the living conditions of the people of Bangladesh.

Rear Admiral Sultan laid a floral wreath at the grave of the late President Chernenko near the Kremlin Wall yesterday. He was received by the commandant of the Lenin Mausoleum when he laid the wreath at a special ceremony. He stood in solemn silence to pay homage to the departed Soviet leader. Bangladesh Ambassador to the Soviet Union Syed Najmuddin Hashim was also present on the occasion.

SOKOLOV MEETS WITH LAO DEFENSE MINISTER 15 MAR

LD151834 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 15 Mar 85

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Marshal of the Soviet Union Sokolov, USSR defense minister, had a meeting today with Army General Khamtai Siphandon, member of the Politburo Bureau and secretary of the Laotian People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of national defense of the Lao People's Democratic Rebublic. A warm and friendly conversation took place on questions of mutual interest. Taking part in the conversation was Marshal of the Soviet Union Akhromeyev, chief of General Staff of the Armed Forces and first deputy USSR defense minister.

LAO AMBASSADOR TO USSR LEAVES MOSCOW 4 MARCH

PM061110 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report under general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] Khamta Douangthongla, Lao ambassador to the USSR, left Moscow 4 March.

New Envoy Arrives

PM141543 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report under general heading "Official Announcements"]

[Text] Thongsavath Khaikhamphithoun, ambassador of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the USSR, arrived in Moscow 13 March.

KAPITSA HOLDS TALKS WITH AUSTRALIAN OFFICIALS

LD152311 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1120 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Text] Canberra, 15 Mar (TASS) -- Soviet-Australian consultations, in the course of which topical problems of Asia and the situation in the southern part of the Pacific Ocean region were discussed, were held here on 14 and 15 March.

Taking part in the consultations on the Soviet side were Mikhail Kapitsa, deputy minister of foreign affairs, and Yevgeniy Samoteykin, the USSR's ambassador to Australia. On the Australian side were Del Harris, first deputy minister of foreign affairs, and Del Miller, deputy minister of foreign affairs. M. Kapitsa was received by William Hayden, minister of foreign affairs, and had a conversation with him.

INDOCHINA VISIT BY AUSTRALIA'S HAYDEN DISCUSSED

PM181042 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 4

[B. Vinogradov "International Commentary" under the rubric "Events of the Day" "Constructive Foundation"]

[Text] The foreign press sees the results of the visits to Laos and Vietnam by Australian Foreign Minister William Hayden as an important contribution to the development of relations of friendship and mutual understanding.

In Vientiane and Ho Chi Minh City questions of further expanding bilateral relations and also international and regional problems were examined.

At the meeting between W. Hayden and SRV Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach, special attention was paid to prospects for strengthening peace and stability in Southeast Asia. The Australian side stated, in particular, that Australia resolutely condemns and does not recognize the Pol Pot genocidal clique, regarding the elimination of the Pol Potites as a military and political force as one of the most important conditions for continuing the withdrawal of Vietnamese volunteers from the PRK.

However, this position does not suit Washington and its allies among the ASEAN states. They continue to lead matters toward an even more dangerous fueling of tension in Southeast Asia, using the complex situation on the Cambodian-Thai border here. As already reported, the United States is currently increasing arms deliveries to Thailand and has started to create ammunition dumps on Thai territory very close to those areas were bandits are entrenched. It is no secret that the U.S. weapons delivered to those regions are being used by the Pol Potites to attack people's Cambodia. The facts show that the United States is gambling increasingly openly on resolving the "Cambodian question" by force of arms.

Remaining true to a course aimed at the peaceful settlement of all disputes, the countries of Indochina consistently advocate equitable dialogue with their neighbors. The proposals of the SRV, Laos, and the PRK, expounded at the January conference of foreign ministers, are notable for goodwill and constructiveness. As UN General Secretary J. Perez de Cuellar pointed out during his recent visit to Hanoi, these proposals are a good basis to enable the other interested parties to understand more clearly the position of the three countries of Indochina on regional problems.

It is only on this basis that the way to mutual understanding, peace, and good-neighborliness can be found. This was shown yet again by the talks between the Australian minister and his colleagues in Laos and Vietnam.

MESSAGES EXCHANGED ON THAILAND'S NATIONAL DAY

PM151035 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Exchange of Telegrams"]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has sent King Phumiphon Adunyadet of Thailand a telegram conveying congratulations and wishes for well-being to him on the country's national holiday and wishes for peace and prosperity to the people of Thailand.

In a reply telegram, the king of Thailand expressed sincere gratitude for the message and conveyed good wishes to the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

The USSR Council of Ministers has sent Thai Prime Minister General Prem Tinsulanon a congratulatory telegram conveying congratulations to him on the country's national holiday and wishes for progress and well-being to the Thai people.

In a reply telegram, the Thai prime minister expressed cordial gratitude for the warm congratulations.

TV REPORTS ON CAMBODIAN-THAI BORDER SITUATION

LD180017 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1500 GMT 17 Mar 85

[From the "International Panorama" program presented by NOVOSTI political observer Spartak Beglov; correspondent Yevgeniy Osipovskiy video report from the Cambodian-Thai border]

[Excerpts] A trip to this border always arouses a special feeling. You see, it is precisely from here that the counterrevolutionary groups try to hinder the Cambodian people as they construct a new life. They attack peaceful inhabitants, plunder villages, and mine nearby roads. However, an end will soon be put to this. This is the conviction you gather from conversations with the soldiers and officers and inhabitants and representatives of people's power in the Province of Battambang in the northwest of the country and its district of Sisophon, which is considered one of the most troubled parts near the border. The might of the Cambodian Army has considerably increased recently.

It is successfully repulsing the attempts by bandit groups to penetrate Cambodian terriroty and delivering increasingly powerful blows on the counterrevolutionary bases. It should be specified what kind of bases these are. They are situated in Thailand, but if the possibility arises -- for instance, in the rainy season, when it is difficult to control the border -- the counterrevolutionary groups try to move into Cambodian territory and declare so-called liberated zones here of which there are, in fact, none. It is against such bases that operations are carried out to preserve Cambodian's territorial integrity. The decision has now been taken to construct defense structures in the most dangerous places on the border. The people have started on this work with great enthusiasm.

Many provinces have sent representatives to the border. Of course, this means taking the work force away from the enterprises of the republic and peasants away from their agricultural work. But it is worth it.

Here on the Cambodian border the situation is becoming increasing normalized. In the border towns the markets are open and you can buy what you need at various stalls and stores. More and more often you see smiles on people's faces and children playing happily.

There is no need to fear for their future. The people's power is doing everything possible so that the young generation of Cambodia can live in peace, have the opportunity to receive an education, and take up creative labor. The inhabitants of these places are firmly convinced that the gloomy pages in the history of this country will never be repeated again.

FURTHER ON GORBACHEV-TRUONG CHINH MEETING

OW170046 Moscow International Service in Vietnamese 1000 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Text] As reported, a meeting between Comrade Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and Comrade Truong Chinh, member of the CPV [Communist Party of Vietnam] Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the SRV Council of State, was held in Moscow on 14 March.

Radio Moscow's observer wrote: This meeting took place in Moscow in an atmosphere of fraternal friendship and complete unanimity of views on all aspects of Soviet-Vietnamese relations. Comrades Gorbachev and Truong Chinh expressed their satisfaction when dealing with the close and unshakable solidarity between the CPSU and the CPV, between the Soviet Union and the SRV, and between the Soviet and Vietnamese peoples.

Our station's observer stressed: This solidarity and its effectiveness and strength have been manifested constantly in all developmental steps of the Vietnamese revolution. Realities have proved eloquently that even in their fierce struggles against foreign invaders as well in their peaceful construction work, the entire Vietnamese people have always depended on the assistance and support of the Leninist party and the homeland of the October Revolution. At the forum of the Fifth CPV Congress, Comrade Le Duan said with emotion: The solidarity and comrehensive cooperation with the Soviet Union have always remained a cornerstone for the foreign policy of our party and our state and have been regarded by us as a guarantee for all successes of our people.

Our station's observer continued: The Fifth CPV Congress, the 3d anniversary of which will be celebrated by the end of this month, has brilliantly manifested the close and unshakable sclidarity between the CPSU and the CPV and between the Soviet Union and Vietnam.

In his congratulatory speech at the Fifth CPV Congress, Comrade Gorbachev, then the head of the CPSU delegation, stated: We are united because of our objectives and our mutual concern about cur achievements. Soviet-Vietnamese relations have been established on the basis of the immutable and just principles of Marxism-Leninism and of proleterian internationalism.

The common stand of constantly developing and consolidating Soviet-Vietnamese friendship and cooperation was reaffirmed at the Moscow meeting between Comrade Gorbachev and Truong Chinh. In their talks on international issues, both sides expressed the determination of the Soviet Union and Vietnam to continue to coordinate positively with each other for the sake of safeguarding peace and consolidating security in all nations and of eliminating the danger of nuclear war.

The Radio Moscow observer concluded: Our two peoples have to pay a high price in the current struggle to protect the right to build peace. It is a rule that our two countries are currently concentrating all efforts on protecting the right to life, the greatest right of all nations.

The Soviet Union values highly Vietnam's role in the socialist and international communities and its clear stance of peace and protection of the interests of all nations walking into the path of independence and development.

At this Moscow meeting, the Soviet side once again expressed its solidarity with the Vietnamese people's struggle agianst the schemes of the imperialists and their henchmen, and to turn Southeast Asia into a zone of peace, stability, and good-neighborliness.

USSR SAID SEEKING DOCKING FACILITIES IN KIRIBATI

HK150130 Wellington Overseas Service in English 0000 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Text] [Words indistinct] Pacific Council [words indistinct] the Soviet Union has been seeking to obtain docking facilities in the Kiribati islands, formerly the Gilbert Islands. The Australians on the Council said the Soviet move could provide the beginning of a viable Russian military presence in the South Pacific and that there is therefore a need to strengthen the ANZUS treaty. The Russians are also seeking fishing rights in the area. A short while ago, we asked (Cy Petty), the Kiribati secretary of foreign affairs, to comment on the matter:

[Begin (Petty) recording] There is negotiation between Kiribati and the USSR on fishing [words indistinct] within the 200-mile limit [words indistinct] there will be another round of talks [words indistinct] no truth in that [words indistinct] the negotiations are purely commercial [words indistinct]. [end recording]

TASS ANALYST VIEWS BELGIAN DECISION ON MISSILES

LD151731 Moscow TASS in English 1637 GMT 15 Mar 85

["NATO: The Course of Building Up Armaments" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow March 15 TASS -- TASS news analyst Leonid Ponomarev writes:

According to reports from Brussels, the Government of Belgium has made the final decision on deployment of 48 American nuclear cruise missiles on the territory of the country. An official announcement on that was made today by Prime Minister Wilfried Martens in Parliament. The defense minister Freddy Vreven has already declared that "Belgium will honour the decisions" of NATO on deployment of such missiles.

The FRANCE PRESSE notes in this connection that the first batch of 16 cruise missiles will be deployed on Belgium's territory within the next few weeks. Such a hurry in deploying American first strike nuclear missiles shows much. It shows above all that the preparatory work for deploying these weapons was conducted in accordance with the time schedule of the NATO command, despite mass protests of Belgians. This also shows that the Washington leaders continue exerting pressure on their NATO partners, demanding that they should display "solidarity" with the U.S. nuclear plans to the detriment of national security and the interests of the people.

The experience of the existence of the NATO bloc for many years shows that the framework and the laws of "NATO solidarity" are so stiff that these do not leave space for the so-called freedom of adopting decisions inside that bloc, rule out the taking of an independent stand on the most vital problems.

One should note also the fact that the NATO, above all the United States, undertakes the step of deploying in Western Europe of yet another batch of American medium range nuclear missiles at a time when in the international horizon there appeared sparkles of hope for relaxation of international tension, including in Europe.

In the recent time in capitals of NATO countries they are talking much of the readiness to get on the way to limitation of nuclear armaments and even their full liquidation. But these are only words so far. Under the cover of these phrases nuclear armaments are being intensively built up, and the report from Brussels is evidence of that. Disarmament through building up ever new and new types of weapons, including militarisation of outer space -- this is the way that Washington leads its NATO allies by.

But this is the way of raising additional obstacles to attainment of accords on real disarmament. The real way to disarmament and normalization of the situation on the whole lies through termination but not through continuation of the arms race. It is exactly with this aim that the Soviet Union proposes to freeze nuclear arsenals, to stop further deployment of missiles, to raise other shields to the build up of armaments.

ZAGLADIN, SPD'S BAHR DISCUSS DISARMAMENT ISSUES

LD172332 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2300 GMT 17 Mar 85

[Text] A meeting has taken place in Bonn between Comrade Zagladin, member of the CPSU Central Committee, first deputy head of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee, and Egon Bahr, member of the Presidium of the German Social Democratic Party [SPD], and other SPD experts on disarmament issues.

The meeting was held in continuation of contacts within the framework of the CPSU-SPD working group on reducing military expenditures and using part of the funds saved to provide aid to the developing countries. Agreement was reached on continuing contacts between the two parties on this extremely important problem of modern time.

PONOMAREV MEETS WITH SPANISH, UK CP LEADERS

LD151835 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1750 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow, 15 Mar (TASS) -- There was a meeting in the CPSU Central Committee today between B.N. Ponomarev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and a delegation of the Spanish Communist Party led by the party's general secretary, I. Gallego. B.N. Ponomarev expressed gratitude for the profound condolences passed on by I. Gallego in connection with the death of K. U. Chernenko. During the talk, which took place in a friendly atmosphere, they stressed the resolution of both parties to fight actively against the arms race and to liquidate the threat of nuclear war. They confirmed their desire to develop relations between the CPSU and the Spanish Communist Party in the interests of peace and socialism.

B.N. Ponomarev had a meeting with G. MacLennan, general secretary of the Communist Party of Great Britain. On behalf of British Communists, G. MacLennan expressed profound condolences on the death of K.U. Chernenko. B.N. Ponomarev expressed gratitude for this. There was an exchange of opinions on some international problems and also on relations between the CPSU and the Communist Party of Great Britain. A.S. Chernayayev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and deputy chief of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee, took part in the comradely conversation.

TOLKUNOV RECEIVES DANISH PARLIAMENTARIAN

PM141542 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report under general heading "Official Announcements"]

[Text] L.N. Tolkunov, chairman of the Soviet Committee for European Security and Cooperation and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Union, received E. Strang, chairman of the Danish Socialist People's Party parliamentary group, on 12 March.

TOLKUNOV, VOSS RECEIVE CYPRUS' LADHAS 13 MAR

PM141549 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report under general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] L.N. Tolkunov and A.E. Voss, chairmen of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Union and Soviet of Nationalities, met with Y. Ladhas, president of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Cyprus, 13 March. On behalf of S. Kiprianou, president of the Republic of Cyprus, and the Cypriot people, Y. Ladhas expressed condolences and feelings of profound respect for the memory of K.U. Chernenko. In a friendly conversation, the Soviet Union's principled stance on the Cyprus question was reaffirmed. Satisfaction was expressed with the development of Soviet-Cypriot relations in various spheres and the favorable opportunities for fruitful cooperation were noted.

'ARAFAT REPORTEDLY MEETS WITH GORBACHEV 14 MAR

JN151644 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] met with new Soviet President [as heard] Mikhail Gorbachev in Moscow yesterday. Our correspondent has learned that during the meeting, they reviewed the latest developments in the Palestinian, Arab, and international arenas. Our correspondent has also learned that brother leader Abu 'Ammar expressed his appreciation for the firm and principled Soviet stand, and said that the Soviet stand stems from the strategic relations between the Palestinian people and their sole and legitimate representative, the PLO, and the USSR.

The Soviet president reiterated his country's support for the Palestine cause and the Palestinian people's struggle under the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. He asserted that his country will remain a friend and strong supporter of the Palestinian people and their just cause.

PONOMAREV MEETS WITH LEBANESE CP LEADER

PM181051 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Mar 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report under general heading "Meetings at the CPSU Central Committee"]

[Text] A meeting took place in the CPSU Central Committee today between B.N. Ponomarev, candidate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and G. Hawi, secretary general of the Lebanese Communist Party Central Committee.

B.N. Ponomarev expressed gratitude for the profound condolences in connection with the death of K.U. Chernenko conveyed by G. Hawi.

In the conversation, which was conducted in a warm and friendly atmosphere, the aspiration of the CPSU and the Lebanese Communist Party for further development of relations between both parties was confirmed and the CPSU's solidarity with the courageous struggle of the Communists and all other patriots of Lebanon against Israeli aggression and for the independence, territorial integrity, and sovereignty of their country was expressed.

Taking part in the conversation was R.A. Ulyanovskiy, deputy head of the CPSU Central Committee International Department. (Y. Murtada), member of the Lebanese Communist Party Central Committee, also participated in the meeting.

DEMCHENKO VIEWS LATEST 'FLARE-UP' IN GULF WAR

PM151107 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Mar 85 First Edition p 5

[Pavel Demchenko "Commentator's Column": "A Dangerous Flare-Up"]

[Text] Every day recently, alarming reports have come from the Iranian-Iraqi front. Not confining themselves to hostilities in the battle zone, the warring sides have launched bombing, missile, and artillery strikes against civilian targets, including residential areas of major cities.

These include Baghdad, Basra, Mandali, and Kirkuk on the Iraqi side, and Tehran, Abadan, Ahvaz, Esfahan, and Tabriz on the Iranian side. Foreign news agencies report a great number of casualties.

This new flare-up of brutality indicates that the agreement concluded by the sides last June, banning attacks on civilian targets, has been violated. At the same time it serves as yet another reminder of the urgent necessity to seek ways to end the Iran-Iraq war, which has been going on for 4 and 1/2 years and is causing great harm and suffering to the peoples of both countries, as soon as possible.

Numerous attempts on the part of international organizations -- the United Nations, the Arab League, the Nonaligned Movement -- to stop the fighting and bring the warring sides to the negotiating table have so far failed to produce positive results.

While the two neighboring Muslim countries are wearing each other out in bloody combat, others draw advantage from this. The Pentagon keeps a large squadron near the Persian Gulf, justifying this by the continuing conflict and the threat to shipping in the Hormuz Strait which has allegedly arisen.

Foreign observers link the movement of warships of the U.S. 6th Fleet to the eastern Mediterranean with both events in Lebanon and the exacerbation of the situation on the Iranian-Iraqi front. In short, the forces of intervention are ready to pounce. The representative of a U.S. oil company recently declared cynically: "The threat of the war consists in the fact that it might end." Is this not another indication as to who is gaining from the fratricidal Iran-Iraq war, who is lining their pockets from the deaths of thousands upon thousands of people?

UN Secretary General J. Perez de Cuellar has appealed to Iranian and Iraqi leaders to stop bombing civilian targets and end hostilities. The sooner both countries respond to this and other peace-loving appeals and settle the disputed questions between themselves, the better. This will benefit both the Iranian and the Iraqi peoples and remove one of the most serious hotbeds of war on earth.

TASS CITES IRAQ, IRAN BATTLE REPORTS FOR 17 MAR

LD180034 Moscow TASS in English 2050 GMT 17 Mar 85

[Text] Baghdad March 17 TASS -- The Iraqi forces yesterday repulsed the enemy's attempt to force the River Tigris, Iraq's supreme military command reported. Iranians sustained heavy losses in personnel and equipment. Two units of the Republican Guards and an armoured brigade were brought into action in an area "east of Tigris."

Iraqi planes flew yesterday 536 combat missions, while helicopters flew 390 combat missions. The Iraqi Airforce was bombing Iranian cities Esfahan, Tabriz, Gilan-e Gharb, Sanandaj, Saqqiz, Dezful and others. Iraqi anti-aircraft defences shot down three Iranian planes.

Nicosia March 17 TASS -- During five days of offensive operations, the Iraqi forces lost 120 tanks and 2,000 servicemen in killed and wounded, the Iranian news agency IRNA reports. The strategically important bridge Jubeir across the River Tigris was destroyed. Iranian troops seized Khur District south of Amara.

Iranian planes were bombing Iraqi cities of Akra and Diana. Artillery was shelling the south Iraqi city of Basra throughout the day.

DELEGATION ATTENDS BRAZILIAN INAUGURATION

LD152055 Moscow TASS in English 1815 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Text] Brasilia March 15 TASS -- Power was handed over in a ceremony here today to Brazilian Vice-President Jose Sarney. He will temporarily act as head of state in connection with the illness of the country's President-Elect Tancredo Neves. In accordance with the Constitution, Jose Sarney took the oath at a special session of the National Congress.

The ceremony marks the beginning of activity of the civilian government in Brazil after twenty years of military rule.

About a hundred foreign delegations, including a Soviet delegation headed by Vice-President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Pavel Gilashvili, are taking part in the inaugural functions.

VOROTNIKOV RECEIVES VENEZUELAN DELEGATION

LD151904 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1130 GMT 15 Mar 85

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Comrade Vorotnikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, today received a delegation from the Venezuelan Association for Intermunicipal Cooperation headed by De Ascale Senteno, president of the association. In the course of a friendly conversation, the fruitful development of Soviet-Venezuelan relations and the contribution of local organs of power in broadening and deepening them were noted with satisfaction.

Comrade Vorotnikov made his guests familiar with how the plan for social, economic, and cultural development of the Russian Federation and the whole country is being implemented, and spoke of the Soviet Union's peace-loving foreign policy and of Soviet initiatives aimed at solving the most important international problems.

The members of the delegation noted that their journey to the USSR has made it possible for them to become acquainted with the Soviet people's enormous achievements in all areas of life and once again to be convinced of its aspiration for peace.

CHILE'S MDP CALLS FOR PROTESTS 27-28 MARCH

PY180101 Moscow in Spanish to Chile 2130 GMT 17 Mar 85

[Text] The Chilean leftist opposition coalition, the Popular Democratic Movement [MDP], has confirmed at a national assembly held cladestinely that the national day of protest against the dictatorship will be held 27-28 March.

In a press communique delivered to newspapers and national and foreign press agencies, this illegal organization reported on the agreements reached during the national assembly. The assembly was headed by MDP President Manuel Almeyda and MDP Secretary General Jose Sanfuentes.

The agreement on the National day of protests points out that the MDP calls on the people and all democrat to actively participate in the social mobilization protests sponsored by the opposition social and political forces on 27 and 28 March.

GORBACHEV CITED ON PARTY, STATE PRIORITIES

LD151450 Moscow TASS in English 1318 GMT 15 Mar 85

["The Priority Concern of the CPSU and the Soviet State" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow March 15 TASS -- TASS observer Petr Lidin writes:

According to the statistics, the real per capita income has doubled in the USSR in the past 20 years, trade turnover in the retail trade network has increased three-fold with the prices of food and consumer goods remaining unchanged. The putting into service during this period of apartment houses with about 40 million flats having all the modern conveniences permitted about 200 million people to improve their living conditions. These are the general figures reflecting the results of the putting into life of the social policy of the CPSU and the Soviet Government in the past two decades.

"The meeting of the growing requirements of Soviet people and the improvement of their working and living conditions has always been and will continue to be the priority concern of the CPSU and the Soviet state", the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev said last Wednesday. Life shows that it is really so.

Whatever part of the broad social sphere we take as an example, it is obvious that the Soviet Union is doing all that can be done at the moment for meeting the requirements and needs of Soviet people.

The granting of an opportunity to develop and put into practice one's abilities is a major condition of ensuring fitting life to anyone. The USSR provides its citizens with free education on all the levels, including university education, with secondary education being compulsory for all, everyone in this country is given a job according to his trade or profession. Unemployment was done away with in the USSR as far back as in 1930.

It was recorded in the Soviet Constitution for the first time in 1977 that Soviet people had the right to health care and to housing. This country boasts the world's biggest and most ramified network of free health care and medical institutions which includes 60,000 polyclinics, out-patient clinics and specialised centers and 23,000 hospitals with a staff of over one million physicians and a three-million-strong middle-echelon medical personnel.

The Soviet Union has come close to solving the housing problem which is a very sensitive social issue. State housing construction is going on on a mass scale in this country, and planning specialists maintain that by 1990 every Soviet family will have a separate flat with all modern conveniences. It is also worth recalling that flats in state-owned apartment houses are givne to citizens free of charge, and the rent does not exceed 3 per cent of the income of an average workers' family.

It is also important that unlike Western countries where, as a rule, the rich become ever more rich and the poor -- ever more poor in this country the living standards of all the sections of the population are improved. They are raised more rapidly in families with smaller incomes. This reflects the working of the principle of social justice inherent in a socialist society, as well as in the CPSU policy in the social sphere.

BROCHURE PUBLISHED ON 11 MAR 1985 PLENUM

LD152357 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 15 Mar 85

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Material on the extraordinary 11 March 1985 CPSU Central Committee Plenum has been published in a separate brochure. It contains reports about the plenum, Comrade Gorbachev's speech for the opening of the CPSU Central Committee plenum, Comrade Gromyko's speech, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Gorbachev's speech, and a brief biography of Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev. The brochure has been published by the Politicheskaya Literatura Publishing House.

PRAVDA EDITORIAL ON PARTY EXACTINGNESS

PM181003 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Mar 85 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Increasing Exactingness"]

[Text] The more large-scale the tasks facing our society, the greater is the role of Communists and leadership cadres in their resolution. In all sectors, everywhere, Communists must set an example of the fulfillment of civic duty and conscientious labor for the good of society, and must assert the Leninist work style everywhere. This applies first and foremost to party cadres and to party and state leaders, it was noted at the extraordinary plenum of the CPSU Central Committee. The party will steadily pursue the line of stepping up exactingness and increasing responsibility for the task at hand.

We have many experienced leaders who work competently and with initiative and enjoy well-earned respect and prestige. The party does everything to support, encourage, and elevate those who display their attitude to their social duty in weighty practical deeds.

Life does not stand still. For a leader, to stop growing is to lag behind. That is why the demand for constant professional, ideological, and political growth is so urgent for cadres. It is necessary to make fuller use of all forms of instruction and self-education to this end. People want to see a leader set a high moral example, too. When they encounter a formal, bureaucratic attitude toward their needs and aspirations and manifestations of ostentation, idle talk, arrogance, and irresponsibility, this naturally causes condemnation.

The leader is responsible for everyting in the sector of work entrusted to him. Of course, the organization of labor and the state of labor and production discipline largely depend on him. We may say: The stricter a person is toward himself, the more exacting he is toward others. The struggle for a high level of discipline cannot by any means be regarded as a short-term campaign. However, it must be admitted that this still happens sometimes. Much-publicized measures are succeeded by a total lull, and that does not make discipline any stronger. Our party orients us differently. It strives to ensure that the course of strengthening discipline and order is pursued constantly and unswervingly.

Our arsenal includes the most diverse forms of cultivating a high sense of responsibility in leaders for the task in hand. Their reports are discussed at party committee plenums and bureau sessions and in soviet organs. Leaders are reporting increasingly frequently to primary party organizations and labor collectives.

Here the degree of exactingness with which the evaluation of leaders' work and conduct is approached is important. Take, for instance, that crucial document, the character reference. It does not always provide an objective, accurate idea of a person's political, practical, and moral qualities. Sometimes references are impersonal and standardized, and have no educational significance. Conversely, where this matter is approached not as a formality, but with profound commitment and broad publicity, the benefits are obvious.

The recent Georgian Communist Party Central Committee plenum supported the practice of hearing Communists' reports and approving party references at open party meetings. In the republic, 1,045 senior party, soviet, trade union, and Komsomol officials and 4,520 leaders of enterprises, organizations, and institutions have already undergone this "party accreditation." The work of most of them was positively assessed. However, 512 leaders were subjected to serious, unbiased criticism and were alerted to the need to reorganize their work style. For 326 leadership workers, basically negative references were adopted, with the imposition of a party penalty or with the question being raised of the inexpediency of their remaining in their post.

Criticism and self-criticism are effective means of education. They stop people from resting on their laurels and help them in good time to discover and eliminate particular shortcomings. Of course, on one very important condition: that the leader has the correct attitude to criticism. But if he becomes arrogant and begins dismissing justified observations out of hand, so to speak, and still more if he takes revenge, strict measures of party influence are needed.

The party directs particular attention to increasing the role of primary party organizations in educating leaders. Matters should be organized in such a way that each of them is constantly monitored from both above and below, and from the masses, and is aware that he is accountable and responsible not only to those who lead him, but to those whom he leads, to his comrades in the party organization. The party has one discipline, one set of rules, for all its members. If a communist leader behaves incorrectly, he must answer first and foremost to the primary party organization of which he is a member.

Communists and nonparty people send letters and make oral statements to party committees and soviet and trade union organs. These appeals not infrequently arise from shortcomings in the work style and methods of officials and from errors in cadre selection. Of course, every such warning demands the most careful examination and effective measures. However, there are also instances of a formal, indifferent attitude toward working people's letters and statements. Such instances must be resolutely nipped in the bud.

In preparing for the next, 27th party congress, party organizations are called upon to conduct a searching analysis of all aspects of their work in the spirit of the March (1985) CPSU Central Committee Plenum. The heightening of exactingness toward cadres, the strict observance of law and order, and the strengthening of labor, state, and party discipline must promote the resolution of priority socioeconomic tasks and the successful completion of the 5-year plan.

HEAD KRASNAYA ZVEZDA URGES UNITY, VIEWS FUTURE

PM151412 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 Mar 85 Second Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Fidelity to the Party Cause"]

[Text] The Land of the Soviets has said its last farewell to Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, outstanding party figure and statesman, patriot and internationalist, and staunch fighter for the triumph of the ideals of communism and for peace on earth. In these sorrowful days of mourning, we have felt even more acutely how mighty and monolithic the ranks of Soviet Communists are and how firmly our Soviet people are rallied beneath the party's Leninist banner around its Central Committee and the CPSU Central Committee Politburo. Soviet people -- urban and rural working people and Army and Navy servicemen -- have yet again shown the entire world their boundless devotion to the great cause of the party and their unanimous support for its policy.

The party and the entire Soviet people welcomed with enormous interest and satisfaction the documents and decisions of the CPSU Central Committee Extraordinary 11 March 1985 Plenum. The plenum unanimously elected Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. This announcement was greeted with fervent approval by the party and the entire Soviet people. The decisions of the party Central Committee extraordinary plenum were perceived throughout our country as well as abroad as further proof of the CPSU's unwavering fidelity to the Leninist course of creation and peace and as evidence of continuity in its policy.

Comrade M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, delivered a speech at the plenum. He stressed that the strategic line elaborated by the 26th congress and subsequent Central Committee plenums has been and remains unchanged. It is a line of accelerating the country's socioeconomic development and improving all aspects of society's life. The point at issue concerns the transformation of the material and technical bases of production. The point at issue concerns improving the system of social relations, and primarily economic relations. The point at issue also concerns the development of man himself and the qualitative improvement of the material conditions for his life and work and his spiritual makeup.

The part is channeling its efforts and the labor activeness and efforts of the entire people toward achieving a decisive breakthrough in transferring the national economy onto the tracks of intensive development. The task that has been set is to reach the most advanced scientific and technical positions and the highest world levels of social labor productivity within a brief period of time. Coping more successfully and rapidly with this task presupposes the continued persistent improvement of the economic machinery and the entire management system and the creative application of the fundamental principles of socialist economic management.

This approach to the work at hand totally corresponds with the people's aspirations and is geared to subordinating all economic development even more fully to the interests of Soviet people. The CPSU Central Committee extraordinary plenum noted that the party will steadfastly follow the social policy it has elaborated and will impart increasingly specific and profound meaning to the program stipulation: everything for the sake of man, everything for the benefit of man. The party's policy has been and will remain aimed at strengthening the alliance of the working class, kolkhoz peasantry, and intelligentsia and steadily consolidating the friendship of the peoples of our great multinational power [derzhava].

Soviet people ardently welcome the party course of further improving and developing democracy and the entire system of the people's socialist self-management.

LAST LINE

The solution of multifaceted tasks in this sphere is inseparably linked with enhancing social awareness. This has led to the requirements made of educational work, the availability of information to the masses, and all ideological activity. One important task is to boost Soviet people's labor and social activeness, strengthen discipline, and nurture patriotism and internationalism. The resolute measures, which have been approved by the people, to further impose order, cleanse our life of alien phenomena and any encroachments against the interests of society and its citizens, and strengthen socialist legality will continue to be implemented.

The clear and consistent foreign policy course of the CPSU and the Soviet state -- the course of peace and progress -- enjoys the support of the entire people. The first commandment of the party and the state is to safeguard and comprehensively strengthen the fraternal friendship with countries in the great socialist community. The CPSU Central Committee extraordinary plenum reaffirmed that Lenin's party will, as always, cooperate closely with the fraternal communist, workers, and revolutionary democratic parties and advocate unity and active joint actions by all revolutionary forces. The Soviet Union's sympathies lie with the Asian, African, and Latin American countries marching along the path of consolidating independence and social renewal.

The CPSU Central Committee plenum pointed out that in relations with capitalist countries, the USSR will firmly adhere to the Leninist course of peace and peaceful coexistence. Our country is prepared to participate in the continuation of the process of establishing peaceful and mutually advantageous cooperation between states on the principles of equality, mutual respect, and noninterference in internal affairs. Agreement between the opposing forces, on an honest and equal basis, to immediately halt the arms race, and primarily the nuclear arms race, on earth and prevent it in space is the only reasonable way out of the currently prevailing situation when, through imperialism's fault, an unprecedentedly terrible threat hangs over mankind.

The Soviet Union has never striven and does not strive to gain unilateral advantages or military superiority. It will always respond to goodwill with goodwill and to trust with trust. But everyone must know that the interests of the fatherland and its allies will never be compromised by our party and our people. "In the complex international situation," Comrade M.S. Gorbachev noted, "it is more important than ever before to maintain our motherland's defense capability at such a level that potential aggressors are well aware that any encroachment against the security of the Land of the Soviets and its allies or against Soviet people's peaceful life will be met with a crushing retaliatory strike. Our glorious Armed Forces will continue to have at their disposal everything necessary for this purpose."

This principled stance is totally approved by our people and Soviet Army and Navy personnel. Soviet servicemen unanimously support and approve the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee March (1985) Plenum. Closely rallied around the Communist Party, they will continue to do everything in the complex and dangerous international situation to fittingly perform their sacred duty in defending the Soviet people's peaceful labor and the gains of socialism.

All Soviet people are profoundly aware that the times require strenuous creative work and monolithic unity beneath the party's Leninist banner. The experience of decades has firmly convinced them that the party is the actual force that is capable of taking into account the interests of all classes and social groups and of all nations and ethnic groups in the country, of rallying them together, and of mobilizing the people's energy in the common cause of communist building. The party's strength is rooted in firm monolithic unity with the people, while the people's strength is rooted in unity with the party and in the party's tested leadership.

"We are confident that the goals set by the party, which is approaching its 27th congress, will be attained," Comrade M.S. Gorbachev said in opening the Red Square mourning meeting devoted to K.U. Chernenko's memory. "A guarantee of this is provided by Soviet people's selfless labor and the unbreakable unity of party and people."

The Soviet people are utterly determined to do everything to ensure that our motherland becomes still richer and mightier and that the creative forces of socialism are revealed even more fully.

FEDORCHUK ATTENDS ALL-UNION JUSTICE CONFERENCE

PM180954 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Consolidating Socialist Legality"]

[Text] The results of work done by the bodies and institutions of justice and the courts during 1984, the tasks for further strengthening socialist legality and law and order, and improving the work with cadres, in the light of the decisions made by the 26th CPSU Congress and subsequent plenums of the CPSU Central Committee, were discussed on 15 March at an All-Union conference of leading workers of republican ministries of justice and courts.

Comrade Kravtsov, USSR minister of justice, and other speakers devoted particular attention to the problem of raising the effectiveness of justice, to practical measures of fighting mercenary crimes, abuse of office, and cases of nonlabor enrichment. There was mention of improving legal services for the nation and the further improvement of work in forming deep respect for Soviet laws and the rules of socialist communal living.

It was indicated that it is necessary to improve the standard of legal work in sectors of the agro-industrial complex and also at those enterprises and associations where the large-scale economic experiment is being conducted.

Taking part in the work of the conference were:

Comrade Menteshashvili, secretary of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet; Comrade Terebilov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Court; Comrade Rekunkov, USSR procurator general; Comrade Fedorchuk, USSR minister of internal affairs; Comrade Tsinev, first deputy chairman of the USSR Committee for State Security; Comrade Abolentsev, deputy head of the Administrative Bodies Department at the CPSU Central Committee; and senior officials from the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and the USSR Council of Ministers.

JUSTICE MINISTER DISCUSSES SOCIALIST LEGALITY

LD152033 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Text] An All-Union conference of workers in the organs of justice and the judiciary took place in Moscow today. Boris Vasiliyevich Kravtsov, USSR minister of justice, is at our microphone:

The system of socialist legality, if one is to be brief and straightforward about it, presupposes the presence of complete laws and the fact that they will be executive by absolutely all state bodies, public organizations, officials, and citizens. The organs of justice and the courts, in close cooperation with the bodies of the procuracy and of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, last year carried out a resolute struggle against various kinds of antisocial phenomena.

However, the party teaches us to evaluate what has been achieved in a critical manner and to concentrate attention on shortcomings and unresolved problems. It is prevention that has been and remains the main issue as far as the struggle against embezzlement, bribe-taking, speculation, and other antisocial phenomena.

We also direct our work toward ensuring that each case reveals the causes and circumstances that gave birth to the commission of crime; toward making sure that the loss sustained by the state as a result of criminal encroachment is fully made good. Our laws and the whole of our juridical mechanism are to be effectvely conducive toward the development of productive forces and solution of social and economic tasks.

It is from this angle that we examined measures aimed at making a more effective use of the legal factors in the strengthening of contractual and financial discipline. The conference focused a great deal of attention on the questions of legal services for the population. This is understandable: Citizens are certainly not indifferent to what kind of services they get from legal advice offices, register offices, or notarial offices. An orderly system of legal upbringing of citizens has now been created in the country. The conference discussed in detail what is necessary to be done in order to improve this system further. The task of providing legal guidance for the leading cadres, cfficials, and social aktiv, all those who are directly concerned with application of the law, is among the foremost tasks. Certain experience of this work has been compiled. The work aimed at giving the population legal education, being carried out in Belorussia, Azerbaijan, and a number of the RSFSR oblasts, deserves to meet with approval.

However, unfortunately, this positive experience is still low. As Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev emphasized in his speech, delivered during the Extraordinary March Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, the effectiveness of the upbringing work should be reflected, first and foremost, in how workers, collective peasantry, and the intelligentsia participate in the solution of large and small problems: in how they work and how they struggle against shortcomings.

Legal propaganda should be more active in furthering the creation, in each labor or educational collective, in each mikrorayon, of an atmosphere of universal intolerance toward those who violate the rules of socialist community.

Summing up the results of our work last year and defining tasks ahead, we focused much attention on the quality of compiling draft laws and other normative acts, on systematizatica and codification of legislation. One of the most important results of this work consists in the fact that we have completed preparations for the publication of the USSR's Code of Laws [Svod Zakonov SSR]. All 10 volumes should be published by the end of this year. The publication of the Code of Laws will, without doubt, be conducive to stability of law and order and will make legal norms more accessible to Soviet citizens.

ACADEMY OF SCIENCES HOLDS GENERAL MEETING

PM151423 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Mar 85 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Science and Practice Allied: USSR Academy of Sciences General Meeting"]

[Text] The party is setting Soviet scientists increasingly responsible tasks in terms of accelerating the rate of scientific and technical progress. Their research is now geared to the solution of topical tasks of the country's economic, social, and cultural development.

The session of the USSR Academy of Sciences general meeting that opened on 14 March in Moscow is discussing the problems relating to the further strengthening of science's ties with production and the main directions of scientific research.

The meeting presidium comprises M.V. Zimyanin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; G.I. Marchuk, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Committee for Science and Technology; V.A. Medvedev, chief of the CPSU Central Committee Science and Educational Establishments Section, and leaders of the Academy of Sciences.

The session of the Academy of Sciences general meeting observed a minute's silence in memory of outstanding party and state figure K.U. Chernenko.

The meeting was opened by Academician A.P. Aleksandrov, president of the USSR Academy of Sciences. The March 1985 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, which has just been held, he said, demonstrated the continuity of our party's policy and our country's confident course toward creative work and toward peace. This was clearly refelected in the speech at the plenum by CPSU Central Committee General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev which oriented all our scientists toward more active involvement on the solution of important economic, public health, and cultural tasks.

The party is setting us the task, the president stated, of ensuring that scientific research has a more effective influence on the acceleration of scientific and technical progress, on increasing social production efficiency and improving the people's well-being. From among the many problems facing scientists A.P. Aleksandrov singled out such priority tasks as improving the mechanism for introducing new scientific developments, creating effective techniques which will obviate the need for expensive imports of materials and equipment, strengthening the Academy of Sciences' experimental and design base, and introducing computer technology into research and planning work on a wide scale.

Academician G. K. Skryabin, chief scientific secretary of the USSR Academy of Sciences Presidium, delivered a report on the Academy of Sciences' activity in 1984. The Academy of Sciences' scientific institutions, he said, continued to focus their efforts last year on carrying out their main task: the further priority development of fundamental research and, above all, those areas that ensure the acceleration of scientific and technical progress.

During the 11th 5-Year Plan much work has been done in the Academy to clarify targeted scientific and technical programs and programs on the solution of very important scientific and technical problems. The USSR Academy of Sciences is participating in 112 programs in which around 200 academic institutions are involved and are carrying out a total of about 3,000 assignments. Under the leadership of the USSR Academy of Sciences Presidium Scientific Council for Problems of Scientific and Technical and Socioeconomic Forecasting and the State Committee for Science and Technology and with the active participation of many academic insititutions a comprehensive program was prepared for the USSR's scientific and technical progress in the 1986-2005 period. It was examined and approved at an enlarged session of the USSR Gosplan. Extensive use is being made of its materials in the elaboration of the basic guidelines for the country's economic and social development up to the year 2000 and the 12th 5-Year Plan.

The speaker then commented on the most striking results of scientific research carried out in various scientific spheres. There has been successful research, in particular, into problems connected with computer software and the improvement of automation and control processess. Major results have been obtained in the sphere of nuclear physics, solid state physics, and optics. Through the common efforts of a number of scientific centers the principles have been elaborated for the creation of economical fiber optic communication lines.

TEXT The completion of the elaboration of the long-term USSR energy program was an important achievement. It outlines ways of further developing the country's energy potential. Considerable successes have been achieved in the creation of a series of maximum performance electrical machines and in the elaboration of methods of converting thermal energy directly into electricity. The range of requisite scientific research and experimental design work has been carried out for the construction of a 500,000 kilowatt industrial magnetohydrodynamic power unit, and the construction of the unit has started on the site of the Ryazan GRES.

New successes have been achieved in space research. In 1984 a record 237-day expedition was carried out by a crew comprising L. Kizim, V. Solovyev, and O. Atkov on the Salyut-7 orbital station. Within the framework of the Interkosmos program there was a space flight by a Soviet-Indian crew. With the aid of the Venera-15 and Venera-16 automatic interplanetary stations in Venus orbit, a radar picture and map of most of Venus' northern hemisphere were obtained.

In the sphere of chemical sciences, the speaker noted a number of studies culminating in the creation of effective new catalysts for major chemical and petrochemical processes, new composite materials and protective coatings for metals, and ecologically clean plant-protection agents.

There was a marked increase in the biologists' contribution to knowledge of the most subtle mechanisms of life and to the development of biotechnology problems. A number of scientific centers have created original methods of obtaining protein and many valuable biochemical preparations and medicines. Research aimed at implementing the country's food program has been expanded. The Academy of Sciences' institutes are carrying out 250 studies in that sphere. A great deal of attention has been devoted to questions of nature conservation and ecological problems.

In the earth sciences sphere, a great deal of work has been done to assess the amount of oil and gas in Siberia. The drilling of the superdeep Kolskaya well, which reached the record depth of more than 12 km, is an outstanding achievement for Soviet geological science and practice.

Social scientists have considerably expanded research into various problems relating to the creation of the material and technical base of communism, improvement of production relations in developed socialism, and strengthening of the socialist way of life. A new center for the study of public opinion has been set up at the Institute of Sociological Research. Scientists have been actively involved in carrying out the extensive economic experiment in the country and in the elaboration on the basis of it of proposals on the further improvement of the economic mechanism.

Assessing the contribution made by the Academy's scientists to the acceleration of the introduction of developments, the speaker noted that in 1984 the institutes of the Academy of Sciences, in conjunction with sector organizations and enterprises, carried out scientific research and experimental design work and tests and industrial trials of production processes and new types of industrial products for many scientific developments. During the year, more than 430 scientific developments were introduced into the national economy, and during the years of the 11th 5-Year Plan, a total of 1,400 academy developments have become available for practical use. However, despite what appear to be good figures, the rate of implementation of scientific achievements is still unsatisfactory.

In recent years the USSR Academy of Sciences and republican academies' cooperation with scientific institutions in the fraternal socialist countries has widened and strengthened. Contacts with scientific institutions in the FRG, Italy, Finland, Austria, Denmark, and India and with the French National Scientific Research Center have developed steadily and at a good level.

LAST LINE

At present, the USSR Academy of Sciences, its institutes, and individual scientists are members of 177 international nongovernmental scientific organizations and are involved in more than 50 international programs and projects, reflecting the growing authority of Soviet science. This high authority has helped our scientists activate the broad movement in defense of peace and for the prevention of nuclear war. They are seeking to convey to the peoples and governments the truth about the nuclear threat faced by mankind and to demonstrate the vital need to avert it.

Scholars of the Academy of Sciences and all scientific workers, the speaker said in conclusion, are prepared to greet the upcoming 27th CPSU Congress with new accomplishments. It is a mater of honor for all of us to implement fully at a high level the plan targets of the final year of the 11th 5-Year Plan and ensure the successful solution of the responsible tasks the party has set Soviet science.

Elects Vice Presidents

LD151942 Moscow TASS in English 1915 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 15 TASS -- The annual meeting of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR, today elected the leading body of the country's scientific establishment, its presidium. Academician Anatoliy Aleksandrov will remain its president, after being reelected to the post yesterday. Today, academicians and coresponding members selected vice-presidents. Their number was increased: Besides Academicians Vladimir Kotelnikov, Yevgeniy Velikhov, Yury Ovchinnikov, Aleksandr Yanshin, Petr Fedoseyev, Anatoliy Logunov and Valentin Koptyuga, the body will comprise 52-year-old scientist Konstantin Frolov. He is an expert on machine-building. Frolov has for many years headed the Blagonravov Institute of Machines.

Each of the eight vice-presidents is in charge of the field of which he is an expert. For instance, Petr Fedoseyev is responsible for social sciences, Yuriy Ovchinnikov for biochemical work. The lineup of academician secretaries was also renewed.

Aleksandrov Profiled

LD142213 Moscow TASS in English 2110 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 14 TASS -- Academician Anatoliy Aleksandrov has been elected for the third time as president of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR. The vote was taken today at the Academy's general meeting which was attended by academicians and corresponding members.

Anatoliy Aleksandrov has been head of this biggest scientific institution of the country for ten years now. He replaced in the post academician Mstislav Keldysh.

Aleksandrov's career as a scientist and scientific organizer is a flurry of brillant ideas and decisions. He started on his way as an electrician, an electrical engineer, and then a secondary school teacher of physics.

The first scientific work of Aleksandrov in student years was devoted to dielectrics. The scientist devoted his greatest efforts, his talents and abilities to the rise of atomic power engineering in the country. The biggest discoveries in that sphere are linked with his name.

The results which were attained by specialists under his direction enabled the USSR to take leading positions in many spheres of nuclear science, technology, industry. Energy units for nuclear-powered ice breakers were built on Aleksandrov's initiative.

Anatoliy Aleksandrov is a man of profound knowledge, rich erudition, great viability. Those who know well the scientist speak of him most enthusiastically. He is cheerful and sociable. He likes a good joke and a hearty laugh. But he is furious when he sees injustice. In the opinion of his colleagues, Aleksandrov has a rare gift -- while taking interest in theoretical research, he does not forget about the practical needs of the country. Every year the Academy of Sciences introduces into the industry hundreds of scientific developments and a great merit in that belongs to Aleksandrov.

The scientist is very much popular, and not only in the USSR. He is a member of the Academies of Sciences of Hungary, Bulgaria, GDR, Sweden and other countries. Aleksandrov is Twice Hero of Socialist Labour, Lenin and State Prize laureate.

MORE CONGRATULATIONS TO GORBACHEV RECEIVED

Domestic, Foreign Greetings

LD161646 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 16 Mar 85

[Text] In connection with the election of Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev as general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, many telegrams and letters expressing hearty congratulations have been received by him from the Communist Party Central Committees, supreme soviet presidiums and councils of ministers of the union republics, from CPSU kraykoms and obkoms, other party and administrative bodies, trade union and Komsomol organizations, public organizations, veterans of the party and the Great Patriotic War, veterans of labor, labor collectives, scientific and cultural figures, servicemen of the Soviet Army and Navy, and individual citizens of the Soviet Union, expressing wishes for great success in his activities in the post of general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

Telegrams of congratulations and wishes for success have come from abroad, from the leaders of the communist and workers parties, and heads of state and government. Congratulations have arrived from Todor Zhivkov of Bulgaria, Janos Kadar of Hungary, Le Duan of Vietnam, Erich Honecker of the GDR, Kim Il-song of the DPRK, Fidel Castro of Cuba, Kaysone Phomvihan of Laos, Jambyn Batmonh of Mongolia, Wojciech Jaruzelski and Henryk Jablonski of Poland, Nicolae Ceausescu of Romania, Gustav Husak of Czechoslovakia, and Ali Sukrija of Yugoslavia.

Congratulations have been sent by the Indian prime minister, Gandhi; the British prime minister, Thatcher; the prime minister of Greece, Papandreou; the president of Syria, al-Asad; the president of Algeria, Bendjedid; the President of Mexico, De la Madrid; the president of Italy, Pertini; and other heads of state and government.

From China's Hu Yaobang

LD172347 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1850 GMT 17 Mar 85

[Text] The newspaper RENMIN RIBAO has published a XINHUA report on the conversation in Moscow between Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and Li Peng, vice premier of the PRC State Council.

Li Peng conveyed cordial congratulations and best wishes from Hu Yaobang, general secretary of the CPC Central Committee, in connection with the election of Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev to the post of the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. The report continues: Li Peng said specifically that China is in agreement with the statement of the Soviet leader on the wish for a serious improvement in relations between the USSR and the PRC. China, Li Peng stressed, is ready to assist the further development of relations between the USSR and PRC in the political, economic, scientific-technical, and cultural spheres.

From Libya's Al-Qadhdhafi

PM151454 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Mar 85 First Edition p 4

[Text] To Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

On the death of Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, I share sentiments of grief with you, the deceased's family, and the friendly Soviet people. On my own behalf and on behalf of the Libyan people, I express sincere condolences to you.

Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

FURTHER CONDOLENCES ON CHERNENKO DEATH

From USSR KGB

PM151036 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Mar 85 Second Edition p 3

[Text] From the USSR KGB:

On behalf of the Collegium and Party Committee of the USSR KGB and all Soviet Chekists, we express profound grief in connection with the death of Three Times Hero of Socialist Labor Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, outstanding figure of the Communist Party and Soviet state and of the international communist and workers' movement, and staunch fighter for the ideals of communism, peace, and people's happiness.

The Leninist party and the Soviet people have suffered a severe loss. The heart of a true son of the party and people has stopped beating; a man who devoted all his conscious life to the selfless service of the cause of communism, the socialist fatherland, and the struggle to strengthen the USSR's economic and defense might and enhance working people's living standards.

In all his posts in party and state activity, Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko proved to be an ardent fighter for the great cause of Lenin, for the successful resolution of the tasks of communist creation, and for peace on earth. His unshakable loyalty to Marxist-Leninist ideals, party principledness, organizational talent, trust and exactingness, and sensitivity toward people earned him deserved prestige and respect among Soviet people.

It is particularly memorable for Soviet Chekists that K.U. Chernenko's party work started more than 50 years ago during service at a border post where he was received into the ranks of the CPSU and elected secretary of the post's party organization by the Communist Border Guards.

The KGB organs and troops daily experienced the concern and attention of the party Central Committee and of K.U. Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. The party's directives are an immutable law of activity for the Land of the Soviets' state security organs, whose work is based on the unshakable foundation of Leninist principles and is in the spirit of the remarkable Chekist traditions.

The bright memory of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, glorious son of the Communist Party and the Soviet people, will be preserved forever in the hearts of Soviet Chekists.

At this sorrowful time we assure the CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet Government of our loyalty, devotion, and readiness to fulfill any task of the party, in order to reliably ensure the state security of our beloved motherland.

The USSR KGB

More National Condolences

LD151720 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Text] Gratitude from the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the USSR Council of Ministers.

In connection with its profound loss, the death of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and Chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the USSR Council of Ministers have received condolences from the central committees of the communist parties, the supreme soviet presidiums and councils of ministers of the union republics, from party, administrative, trade-union, and Komsomol organizations, and from the collectives of enterprises, institutions, construction projects, kolhozes and sovkhozes, educational institutes, party veterans, servicemen of the Soviet Army and Navy, and individual citizens.

All who paid tribute to the memory of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko note his outstanding role in the struggle for the ideals of communism, for peace and cooperation among peoples, and his qualities as an ardent propagator of Marxist-Leninist ideas.

The condolences stress that the whole of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko's life was devoted to the cause of Leninist party and to the building of communism. At every worksector entrusted to him by the party in whose ranks he served for over 50 years, Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko struggled for the implementation of CPSU policy. As CPSU general secretary and USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium chairman, Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko devoted all his strength to pursuing a consistent course toward perfecting developed socialism, resolving the major tasks of economic and social development, raising the creative activity of the masses, improving ideological work, and strengthening discipline, legality, and order.

Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko cherished as the apple of his eye the unity of our party, and the collective nature of the work of the Central Committee and of its Politburo.

Numerous condolences in connection with the death of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko have been received from the leaders and the working people of the socialist states, from communist, workers, revolutionary-democratic parties, and progressive organizations.

These condolences link the work of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko with the consistent struggle of the CPSU and of the Soviet state for peace and international security, and for the implementation of the principles of peaceful coexistence between states with differing social structures, and with important initiatives aimed at ending the arms race, removing the threat of nuclear war and guaranteeing the security of peoples.

The leaders of the fraternal countries and communist parties, and of revolutionary and liberation movements note Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko's great contribution to the further development and consolidation of friendship and all-around cooperation between the fraternal countries of socialism, and to the strengthening of the unity and cohesion of the international communist and workers' movement.

Condolences have also been received from the heads of states and governments, public organizations and citizens of many countries of the world.

The CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the USSR Council of Ministers cordially thank all party, administrative, trade-union, Komsomol organizations, collectives of enterprises, institutions, construction projects, kolkhozes and sovkhozes, educational institutes, and servicemen of the Soviet Army and Navy who sent their condolences in connection with the death of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko. The CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the USSR Council of Ministers express deep and sincere gratitude to their foreign comrades and friends, the working people of the socialist countries, the fraternal parties, fighters for social progress, and to all who voiced their kind feelings to our party and country in the hour of the heavy loss suffered by the Soviet people.

The CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the USSR Council of Ministers are profoundly grateful to all leaders of states and governments, and to those state and public figures who shared with our people their grief over the death of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko. In these times the Soviet people have rallied even more closely around the Communist Party and its Leninist Central Committee, expressed their unanimous support for the decisions of the emergency CPSU Central Committee plenum and the domestic and foreign policy of the party, and displayed a high level of awareness and organization, and the unswerving will to strengthen the economic and defenses might of our homeland, and struggle selflessly for the triumph of the ideals of communism, to whose implementation Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko devoted his life.

From Japanese CP

LD151446 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Mar 85 First Edition p 4

[Text] To the CPSU Central Committee:

We are seized with profound grief in connection with the death of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the death of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Japan [JCP], on behalf of all members of the JCP, expresses sincere condolences to K.U. Chernenko's family, the Central Committee and all members of the CPSU, and the Soviet people.

K.U. Chernenko, as supreme party leader, led the CPSU delegation at the talks held last December in Moscow with a JCP delegation led by Kenji Miyamoto, chairman of the JCP Central Committee.

These talks, which were held with a view to determining effective and radical measures aimed at averting nuclear war and totally banning and eliminating nuclear weapons, and also the joint statement published as a result of the talks, are of extremely important historic significance even today. They were important events both in the world communist movement and in world politics. We think with great regret of the fact that K.U. Chernenko died on the path of advancing the great cause of eliminating nuclear arms, the urgent and central task of vital importance for mankind confirmed in this joint statement.

We hope that you, remembering K.U. Chernenko's efforts imbued with ardor and goodwill in wholeheartedly striving to eliminate nuclear weapons, will overcome this grief, and we wish you successes in the cause of socialism and progress for the sake of peace for all mankind, particularly averting nuclear war and securing the complete elimination of nuclear weapons.

The JCP Central Committee.

From PRK Leadership

PM151231 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Mar 85 First Edition p 4

[Text] To the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the USSR Council of Ministers.

The Central Committee of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party [KPRP], the Council of State, the National Assembly, the PRK Council of Ministers, and the entire Cambodian people learned with profound sorrow of the death of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

The entire life of the outstanding Soviet leader is a shining example of activity for the good of peace. Comrade K.U. Chernenko always acted in defense of socialist principles and put forward specific proposals aimed at achieving international detente.

The Leninist policy of proletarian internationalism, implemented in the past by Comrade K.U. Chernenko, great friend of the Cambodian people, provided a powerful impetus to the development of cooperation between our parties and states, as well as lasting Cambodian-Soviet friendship.

The death of this outstanding statesman has been greeted with profound grief not just by the CPSU, the Soviet state, and the fraternal Soviet people, but also by the KPRP, the state and the entire Cambodian people, as well as by all progressive mankind.

In connection with this sad event, the KPRP Central Committee, the Council of State, the National Assembly, the PRK Council of Ministers, and the Cambodian people express their profound condolences and sentiments of sincere sympathy to the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the USSR Council of Ministers, the Soviet people, and family of the deceased.

The KPRP Central Committee, the PRK Council of State, the PRK National Assembly, and the PRK Council of Ministers.

From FRG's Kohl

PM151430 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Mar 85 First Edition p 5

[Condolence message under general heading "Profound Condolences"]

[Text] To Mr N.A. Tikhonov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers

Highly esteemed Mr Chairman,

I learned with sorrow the news of the death of Mr K.U. Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. Allow me to express my sincere condolences to you.

K.U. Chernenko was entrusted with two of the highest offices in the Soviet Union for a relatively brief but complex and eventful period for mutual relations between West and East. The path for new Soviet-U.S. talks on arms control and for the resumption of dialogue between West and East was opened up during those few months. K. U. Chernenko made an important contribution to this cause, thus reinforcing the highest expectations and hopes for mankind's peaceful future.

During the conversation I had with K.U. Chernenko in February 1984, we stressed the great importance of the constructive development of relations between the FRG and the USSR on the basis of treaties that have been concluded. The development of relations with the Soviet Union on this basis will remain an important task of my government.

Helmut Kohl, FRG federal chancellor

From FRG President

PM151109 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 4

[Text] To Mr V.V. Kuznetsov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium

In connection with the death of Mr Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, I express my sincere condolences to you, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the peoples of the Soviet Union.

His death is a serious loss that has befallen the peoples of the Soviet Union at an important stage of international development.

In his post, K.U. Chernenko made an important contribution to the cause of resuming the dialogue between the great powers and creating more favorable conditions for the future development of East-West relations. In the overall context of these relations, the FRG invariably attaches great significance to its relations with the USSR.

Richard von Weizsaecker, president of the FRG.

From France's Fabius

PM151141 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 5

[Text] To the chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers

Mr Chairman of the Council of Ministers,

The French Government learned with sorrow of the death of Mr Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

On behalf of the government, I express feelings of sorrow in connection with the demise of a statesman whose entire life was devoted to serving his motherland. The French Government, devoted to the development of dialogue and cooperation with the Soviet Union, shares the pain of the loss to the Soviet Government and people.

I beg you, Mr Chairman of the Council of Ministers, to accept the French Government's condolences and the expression of my profound sympathy.

Laurent Fabius, prime minister of France.

From French CP

PM151241 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Mar 85 First Edition p 4

[Text] To the CPSU Central Committee

Dear comrades! The Central Committee of the French Communist Party [PCF] learned with emotion of the death of Comrade K.U. Chernenko, general secretary ofthe CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Throughout his life, K.U. Chernenko occupied responsible posts and took an active part in building socialism. The Soviet people's efforts have made it possible to achieve perceptible progress in the social, economic, and cultural spheres

Following K.U. Chernenko's election as general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, the leadership of the CPSU continued the activity begun by Yu.V. Andropov in implementing transformations aimed at boosting the economy's efficiency, developing social progress, further expanding the working people's participation in management, and increasing their responsibility.

K.U. Chernenko's death has occured at a time when our countries are preparing to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the victory over Hitlerism and the liberation of Europe from nazism. Nobody will forget the enormous sacrifices your people made in the struggle for freedom.

In an international situation marked by tension and escalation of the arms race, K.U. Chernenko, on behalf of the USSR, formulated peace proposals helping to open up prospects for talks on averting space militarization and reducing all nuclear armaments.

He confirmed the USSR's invariable desire to step up economic, technical, cultural, and political cooperation with France, using all available opportunities to develop them in the interests of the cause of peace and security in Europe and throughout the world.

Dear comrades, the relations of cooperation between our parties have been developed on a new basis. In the spirit of these relations, we wish to express to you our sentiments of solidarity in the struggle for peace, disarmament, national independence, social progress, and socialism.

We send our fraternal condolences to the CPSU and the Soviet people.

The PCF Central Committee.

From Pope John Paul

PM151203 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 5

[Text] To Mr V.V. Kuznetsov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Having learned of the death of Mr Konstantin Chernenko, chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium, who held the highest posts in the USSR, I beg Your Excellency and your compatriots to accept my condolences and assurances of a special remembrance of the deceased, an outstanding figure.

John Paul II.

From Iraq's Saddam Husayn

PM151243 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 4

[Text] To the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium:

It was with profound sorrow that we received the news of the death of Comrade Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Personally and on behalf of the Iraqi people and my comrades in the leadership I express very sincere condolences in connection with this grave loss. We express firm confidence that the relations of friendship and cooperation between Iraq and the Soviet Union will continue to develop for the good of our peoples and in the interests of a just peace in our region and throughout the world.

Saddam Husayn, general secretary of the Ba'th Party's Regional Leadership and president of the Republic of Iraq

From Socialist International

PM151442 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Mar 85 First Edition p 4

[Text] To M.S Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

Esteemed Sir,

On behalf of the Socialist International permit me to take this opportunity to express to you and your country's people our very profound condolences on the news of the death of President Chernenko. I beg you to convey our profoundest sympathy at this time of grief to his family, his comrades-in-arms, and the people of the Soviet Union.

Yours sincerely.

Pentti Varanen, general secretary of the Socialist International.

SOVIET OFFICIALS SEE OFF DEPARTING DELEGATIONS

Politburo Members Present

PM151445 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Mar 85 First Edition p 3

[TASS report under general heading "Foreign Delegations' Departure"]

[Text] The following party and state delegations that took part in the funeral of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, have left Moscow:

From Bulgaria, led by Todor Zhivkov; from Hungary, led by Janos Kadar; from the GDR, led by Erich Honecker; from the DPRK, led by Kang Song-san; from Poland, led by Wojciech Jaruzelski; from Romania, led by Nicolae Ceausescu; from Czechoslovakia, led by Gustav Husak.

The delegations were seen off by Comrades Aliyev, Grishin, Romanov, Solomentsev, members of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo; secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Comrade Ryzhkov; and deputy chairmen of the USSR Council of Ministers A.K. Antonov, N.K. Baybakov, V.E. Dymshits, G.I. Marchuk, Z.N. Nuriyev, L.V. Smirnov, N.V. Talyzin, and B.Ye. Shcherbina.

Ryabov, Fedorchuk, Others

LD142156 Moscow TASS in English 1932 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 14 TASS -- The following foreign delegations who arrived here to attend the funeral of Konstantin Chernenko have left Moscow:

Of Austria -- headed by President Rudolf Kirchschlaeger; Algeria -- headed by member of the Political Bureau of the National Liberation Front Party, head of the Standing Secretariat of the Party Central Committee Mohamed Cherif Messaadi; Belgium -- headed by Minister for External Relations Leo Tindemans; Benin -- headed by member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Party of the Benin People's Revolution Gratien Capo-Ghichi; Botswana -- Foreign Affairs Minister G.K.T. Chiepe;

Cape Verde Republic -- headed by member of the PAICV [African Party for the Independence of Cape Verde] Political Commission, National Defence Minister Honorio Chantre Fortes; the Federal Republic of Germany -- headed by Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl; Iraq -- headed by Deputy Chairman of the Revolutionary Command Council 'Izzat Ibrahim; Iceland -- Deputy Prime Minister H. Asgrimsson; Spain -- headed by Chairman of the Government Felipe Gonzalez [title as received]; the Yemen Arab Republic -- headed by 'Abd al-Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani;

the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen -- led by General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Yemen Socialist Party, Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council 'Ali Nasir Muhammad; Cameroon -- headed by State Minister of Planning and Land Management Youssoufa Daouda; Canada -- Prime Minister Martin Brian Mulroney; Lebanon -- headed by Prime Minister Rashid Karami; Libya -- headed by member of the Revolutionary Leadership al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi; Madagascar -- headed by President of the National People's Assembly of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar, member of the Political Bureau of AREMA [Vanguard of the Malagasy Revolution] L.K.M. Andrianarahindzaka; Malta -- President Agatha Barbara; Mexico -- headed by Minister of the Interior Manuel Bartlett; Nigeria -- headed by member of the Supreme Military Council, Defense Minister Major General Domkat Bali; Norway -- Prime Minister Kare Willoch; Pakistan -- President Ziaul Haq; Portugal -- headed by President of the Assembly of the Republic Fernando Amaral; Syria -- headed by Deputy General Secretary of the Arab Socialist Rennaissance Party 'Abdallah al-Ahmar; the United States of America -- headed by Vice President George Bush; Tunisia -- Minister Mongi Kooli, personal representative of the president; Uganda -- headed by Vice President of Uganda People's Congress Paul Muwanga; Uruguay -- Uruguay's ambassador to international organisations in Geneva H. Lacarte Muro; the Philippines -- headed by Governor of Greater Manila, Minister of Ecology and Human Settlements Imelda Marcos; Finland -- headed by President Mauno Koivisto; Switzerland -- led by Defense Minister Jean-Pascal Delamuraz; Sri Lanka -- special representative of the president, Foreign Minister Abdul Carder Shahul Hameed; of Japan led by Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone; Chairman of the Board of Directors and President of the "Occidental Petroleum Corporation" Armand Hammer.

The delegations were seen off by Vice Presidents of the USSR Supreme Soviet G. Pallayev, P.Ya. Strautmanis, Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Ya.P. Ryabov, Minister of the USSR V.V. Fedorchuk, Deputy Ministers of the USSR A.T. Altunin, A.N. Yefimov, A.I. Koldunov, V.G. Komplektov, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Moscow City Soviet V.F. Promyslov; and other officials.

Kuznetsov, Voss

LD161811 Moscow TASS in English 1752 GMT 16 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 16 TASS -- The following party and government delegations, who visited Moscow to attend the funeral of Konstantin Chernenko, have left the Soviet capital:

A delegation of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam led by Truong Chinh, member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, chairman of the SRV Council of State; of the Lao People's Democratic Republic -- led by member of the Political Bureau of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee, President of the Republic Souphanouvong; of the People's Republic of Kampuchea -- led by General Secretary of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea Central Committee, Chairman of the Council of State of the Republic Heng Samrin.

The delegations were seen off by V.V. Kuznetsov, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, N.V. Martynov, Ya.P. Ryabov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and other officials.

The following delegations have left Moscow: of Australia -- led by Minister John Button; of the Republic of Guinea -- led by Mamadi Bayo, member of the Military Committee of National Reconstruction (CMRN), minister for the affairs of youth, sports and culture; of Nepal -- led by R.P. Giri, minister of communications and health; of the Seychelles -- led by D. de Saint Jorre, deputy minister of planning and external relations; Trinidad and Tobago -- led by L. Williams, permanent representative of the republic to the U.N. European Office in Geneva; of the Arab Republic of Egypt -- led by S. Abdul Hakim, chairman of the Consultative Council.

The delegations were seen off by A.E. Voss, chairman of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet, S.P. Burenkov, USSR minister and other officials.

Demichev, Chebrikov

PM151448 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Mar 85 First Edition p 3

[TASS report under the general heading "Foreign Delegations' Departure"]

[Text] The following party and state delegations have left Moscow after attending K.U. Chernenko's funeral:

Mongolia, headed by J. Batmonh, general secretary of the MPRP Central Committee and chairman of the Mongolian People's Great Hural Presidium; Yugoslavia, headed by V. Djuranovic, president of the SFRY Presidency, and A. Sukrija, president of the LCY Central Committee Presidium.

The delegations were seen off by P.N. Demichev and V.M. Chebrikov, candidate members of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo; K.V. Rusakov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; I.I. Bodyul and Z.N. Nuriyev, deputy chairmen of the USSR Council of Ministers, and other officials.

RSFSR HOUSING MINISTER'S APPOINTMENT REPORTED

PM071443 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 7 Mar 85 First Edition p 2

[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA-TASS "Diary"]

[Text] The RSFSR Council of Ministers Presidium has appointed Comrade V.I. Popov RSFSR minister of housing and municipal services.

SHEVARDNADZE ADDRESSES TBILISI MEETING ON TASKS

LD161300 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 16 Mar 85

[Text] A precise plan to mobilize all reserves to complete the 5-year plan was drawn up today at a meeting in Tbilisi of the party and economic aktiv of Georgia. The participants discussed the tasks of the party, administrative and economic organs of the republic in overcoming the effects of the harsh winter and completing assignments and socialist pledges in the light of the requirements of the emergency March CPSU Central Committee Plenum.

Comrade Shevardnadze, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Georgian CP, and other speakers set forth specific proposals to perfect the economic mechanism, and to generally heighten intensification of production. It was stressed at the meeting that to resolve the tasks outlines, it is vital to raise ideological work to a higher level, strengthen party control over the economy, and develop the initiative and active involvement of the working people.

NEW SAMARKAND, NAMANGAN OBLAST SOVIET CHAIRMEN

GF171340 Tashkent D[illegible]stic Service in Russian 1315 GMT 16 Mar 85

[Text] The first session of Samarkand Oblast people's deputies soviet of the new convocation has been held.

Comrade (Nibakov) was elected as chairman of Samarkand Oblast Soviet Executive Committee. The deputies discussed the activity of the oblast's committee of people's control and the tasks of (?homesteaders) in light of the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and the material and annual meeting of the people's controllers.

The first session of Namangan Oblast people's deputies soviet of the new convocation elected Comrade (Khakimov) as chairman of the oblast soviet Executive Committee. The session discussed the tasks of the oblast's soviet and agricultural organs for implementing the long-term program of land reclamation and for increasing the effectiveness of the arable lands in light of the decisions of the October 1984 CPSU Central Committee Plenum.

LITHUANIAN CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM HELD 16 MAR

LD170229 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0001 GMT 17 Mar 85

[Text] A plenum of the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee has been held in Vilnius. Its participants discussed the republican party organization's tasks in perfecting work with cadres in light of the demands of the CPSU Central Committee. A report was delivered by Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee first secretary Comrade Grishkyavichus. The plenum mapped out concrete measures for the further improvement of work with cadres and mobilization of the republic's working people for a worthy marking of the 27th CPSU Congress.

NEW MINISTERS NAMED TO POSTS IN TAJIKISTAN

[Editorial Report] Dushanbe KOMMUNIST TAJIKISTANA in Russian carries two 50-word decrees of new ministerial appointments in the republic. On 14 February, the paper carries on page 2 the directive appointing Yuriy Borisovich Kostarev as the minister of municipal services for the Tajik SSR; Kostarev was released from his duties as chairman of the State Committee for Gas Supply. The announcement is dated 13 February 1985. It is also noted on the same page that Rakhman Mamadalievich Kurbanov was released from his duties as the minister of municipal services in connection with his transfer to other work.

On 26 February, KOMMUNIST TAJIKISTANA carries on page 1 the appointment of Begali Rasulovich Akhmadaliyev as minister of social security for the republic. The announcement is dated 25 February 1985. The same paper carries on page 2 the notice that Karomat Kirsoaliyev was released from his duties as minister of social security in connection with his retirement. The Tajik Communist Party Central Committee expresses its thanks for Mirsoaliyev's long and fruitful service in the party and soviet organs.

PRAVDA EDITORIAL ON INCENTIVES IN CONSTRUCTION

PM111503 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Mar 85 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Encouraging Construction Workers' Labor"]

[Text] To improve all aspects of our economic activity on the basis of a systematic approach: This is a demand of life today. This is an acute problem in capital construction, on which the pace of renewal of the production potential depends to a considerable extent. The CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolution on restructuring the planning, organization, and management of construction, adopted last year, is aimed at fundamentally improving matters in the sector. In accordance with that decision, it is necessary to organize leadership methods in such a way that labor collectives have an interest in creating new projects in a short time and with minimal expenditure and in rearming existing enterprises with the latest science and technology.

Developing that document, measures were adopted recently to improve project planning and costing. The material and technical base of construction is being strengthened. Responsibility for the correct commissioning of projects will be stepped up. The USSR Council of Ministers and AUCCTU resolution "On Improving Labor Organization and the System of Labor Remuneration and Incentives in Construction" was published recently.

One of the new document's important points is that the role of contract teams in improving construction is enhanced. In the USSR Ministry of Construction of Heavy Industry Enterprises, for example, consolidated teams carry out approximately one-fourth of all work, although the total number of them is not large: 1 in every 17 teams. Acting as the primary production, economic, and social unit of the trust, such collectives are capable of the "turnkey" handover of technologically complete stages of work and even entire industrial projects.

The resolution makes it incumbent to consolidate teams, transfer them to integral contracting, introduce the system of annual, quarterly, and monthly work planning, and incorporate engineering and technical personnel in these collectives where expedient. Rights are granted to transfer larger structural subunits to contract forms of labor organization and remuneration. Many mobile mechanized columns and even one trust in its entirety are now working in accordance with this principle in the system of the Main Administration for Construction in Moscow Oblast. Their experience attests that this makes it possible to increase labor productivity and accelerate the commissioning of capacities and projects.

The consistent transfer to wage calculation based on construction estimates and also the detailing of the normative labor-intensiveness of jobs in the plans are to constitute a radically new step in construction management. The present procedure for planning the wages fund on the basis of "what has been achieved" leads to the result that trusts that have achieved high output sometimes end up in a worse position as regards labor remuneration than laggard collectives. It can happen that the wages fund is not so much earned as solicited. Exaggerated reporting of work volumes, one of the reasons for which is obsolete rates, has become the norm. The new principle of remuneration opens up possibilities for the wages fund to be formed as a resultant, that is, as the income remaining in the trust after obligatory payments and dues.

Wages only fulfill their role as an incentive in full when they take accurately into account the quantity and quality of labor. However, if both a good worker and a slipshod worker receive roughly the same, this is advantageous only to the latter. On the whole, the common cause loses out.

To enhance the prestige of efficient labor, in production, management, and planning, it is now possible to use the saved wages fund to introduce supplements to wage rates and salaries for excellent workers. The payment of bonuses for commissioning projects has also been improved. It is planned to strengthen the interest of collectives in ensuring complete deliveries of structures.

The adopted measures usher in a new stage in the improvement of construction. The experiment involving the "turnkey" construction of projects, for example, is of great significance in the further search for new management methods. It is being conducted in five large construction organizations and is designed to determine the maximum permissible limits of trusts' economic independence and responsibility for the speediest replacement of fixed capital. Order in construction and also in labor incentive is directly dependent on how firmly the USSR Ministry of Finance and the USSR Gosbank close all the channels for the emergence of a material and financial imbalance in the national economy. The principle of planning new construction and existing production as a single whole must also become law.

Great work is needed to translate the decisions of directive organs into the language of instructions, normatives, and statues. Foot dragging, sluggishness in preparing these documents, and, in particular, distortion of the spirit and letter of resolutions, as has sometimes happened in the past, are intolerable.

Many new elements of the economic machinery can and must be included in work this year. Ministry and department specialists, economic leaders locally, party and soviet organs, and trade union committees are obliged to see to this. In response to the new concern for construction workers, it is important to still more widely develop socialist competition for the successful achievement of national economic end results. Communists are obliged to set an example in mastering new management methods, in strengthening discipline and responsibility at every work place, and in developing initiative and enterprise. It is necessary to direct organizational and educational work in collectives toward the unconditional fulfillment of plans for the commissioning of projects in 1985. This will guarantee a confident start for our economy in the 12th 5-Year Plan.

COMMENTARY STATES NEED FOR INDUSTRIAL DISCIPLINE

LD172220 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 17 Mar 85

[From the "Vremya" newscast; video talk by polticial observer L.A. Voznesenskiy]

[Excerpts] Hello, comrades. Spring always means a lot, not just in the life of nature and man, but also of society and national economy. This can and should become particularly noticeable this year, after a severe winter that affected the work of a number of industries and resulted particularly in the nonfulfillment of the planned volume of deliveries of certain types of output. To do justice to the truth, let me say that it is not just the winter that is to be blamed for this, for people, too, are to be blamed here: those managers and work forces that made light of the warnings about the nature of the coming winter and certainly were hardly prepared for it when it did come.

The main things is to do everything possible in order to make up for the dealys as soon as possible. This pertains, above all, to the work forces and industries where, for various reasons, there arose the greatest delays in their work: the oil, coal, chemcial, mineral fertilizers, construction materials, timber, pulp and paper, and railway industries' workers.

This also applies to power industry workers who must ensure stable and uninterreupted power and heat supplies and who, along with other workers employed by the fuel and power industry, are foremost in deciding the fate of the whole national economic plan.

Naturally, strengthening of discipline and responsibility is, one can say, an essential condition for immediate speeding up of national economic progress. The Central Committee plenum [not further specified] focused paramount attention on this issue.

The line produced weighty results in the first year of its implementation. It will also produce such results today, if it is coupled with the growth of each collective's independence in the search for reserves in order to fulfill the plan, including the scientific and technological progress factors, in economic flexibility, in the attainment of the biggest possible final results; and each collective must feel that the growth of its independence is a tangible one.

DECISION TO MODERNIZE METAL INDUSTRY VIEWED

LD152139 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0909 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow 15 Mar (TASS) -- The CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers have adopted a decision "On the Development and Technical Modernization of Ferrous Metallurgy and a Considerable Increase in the Quality of Metal Produced as a Very Important Construction Material." The decision envisages the beginning of a broad-scale renewal of fixed assets of ferrous metallurgy. In the first place, it is planned to carry out work on reconstruction of Magnitogorsk and Kuznetsk metallurgical combines, and the Zaporozhstal and Dzerzhinskiy metallurgical combines.

Enrichment and sintering plants, as well as blast furnaces, coking batteries, rolling and pipe mills, and other metallurgical assemblies at other enterprises of the industry will be reconstructed.

The task has been set, in fundamentally reconstructing the metallurgical enterprises, to improve the structure of steel smelting production. The smelting of steel in converters and electric furnaces is increasing significantly. The continuous casting of steel will have doubled in 1990 compared with 1985.

It is planned to solve problems in the 12th 5-Year Plan. In the subsequent period, the reconstruction and technical reequipping of ferrous metallurgy enterprises will continue to be the chief trend of the industry's development. The realization of the targets envisaged in the decision will make it possible to fundamentally renew the industry's fixed assets, to improve the quality of the product, increase labor productivity, to ensure the economy of material resources, and above all of deficit coking coals, coke, pig-iron and steel. At the same time the increase in the volume of rolled metal production in the 12th 5-Year Plan will be secured without an increase in the production of pig-iron, coke, and the extraction of iron ore.

Not less than 6 million metric ton of metal will be economized in the national economy in 1990 compared with the current year through improving the quality and extending the range of metallurgical production.

EARLY MARCH WEATHER, CROP STATUS REPORTED

PM150857 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 14 Mar 85 p 4

[Report by agrometeorologist N. Ignatova: "The Weather and the Crops"]

[Text] The weather remained unusually cold in the first 10 days of March almost everywhere in the European part of the USSR. It was particularly cold in Moldavia, in most parts of the Ukraine and the North Caucasus, Central Chernozem, Central and Volga Regions and in southern parts of the Volga-Vyatka and Ural Regions. Only on occasional days in Latvia, Lithuania, western parts of Belorussia and the Ukraine, Moldavia, southern parts of Krasnodar Kray, Crimea, and northern parts of the Ural Region was there a thaw and the maximum temperature was 0-4 degrees. In most of the territory there was no precipitation, or not more than 5 mm.

The cold weather delayed the breakup and thawing of the snow cover and it therefore remained in almost all parts of the European USSR; what is more, it is rather deep (20-70 cm). It was less than 10 cm deep in extreme southern parts.

Winter grain crops and perennial grasses are lying dormant under rather deep snow, which means that the heavy frost has not endangered the plants. The minimum temperature of the soil at the 3-centimeter depth remained between minus 12 and minus 6. In a number of Central Region oblasts, eastern parts of the Northwest Region, and northern parts of the Volga-Vyatka Region, where the snow was over 50 cm deep, it was somewhat higher.

The results of the growth of specimen plants taken from the fields have shown that by and large winter grain crops and perennial grasses have wintered well. Branch growth in fruit crops has shown that in a number of areas the cold weather in the European USSR has damaged the fruit and leaf buds of stone fruit crops, damaged vineyards, and caused frost cracks in tree trunks.

The weather in the last 10 days of February and first 10 days of March was bad as far as subtropical and citrus crops and vineyards are concerned in the Transcaucasus republics. The low temperature may have damaged mandarins, eucalyptus, laurel, tung trees, and unprotected lemons and oranges. In Armenia the beginning of March saw the coldest weather of the winter. In mountain regions of the Republic the minimum temperature was minus 33-minus 27 degrees. In a number of areas it reached and even passed the absolute minimum. In these areas vine shoots may have suffered damage in unprotected vineyards and young shoots on apricot trees may have suffered some damage.

In farming regions of Siberia and in the Transbaykal region the cold weather persisted only at the beginning of March. In the latter half of the 10-day period it became milder, althought by and large the temperature in most areas was 3-5 degrees below average. It grew colder in Kazakhstan. In West Siberia most winter grain crops were under 20-40 cm of snow.

At the beginning of the 10-day period the maximum temperature in the Central Asian republics rose from 8 to 16 degrees, but it subsequently grew colder. The mild weather at the end of February caused the early blossoming (2-3 weeks earlier than usual) of apricots and almonds in southern Uzbekistan and in the valleys of Tajikistan and Turkmenia. But the cold weather of the past 10 days has arrested plant development and in places has damaged open buds and flowers. Slight grass growth in daylight hours was observed only south of a line connecting Ashkhabad, Bukhara, and Tashkent; winter grain crops lay dormant for most of the period.

ACADEMIC UPDATES VENUS, HALLEY'S COMET PROBES

LD161327 Moscow TASS in English 1314 GMT 16 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 16 TASS -- The Vega-1 and Vega-2 space probes, which were blasted off three months ago, are in good condition as they continue their star trek to Venus and Halley's Commet, Vyacheslav Kovtunenko, a corresponding member of the Soviet Academy of Sciences who is in charge of the "Venus-Halley" program, told journalists. He said that temperature and pressure are maintained at precisely the pre-set levels in the air-tight compartments of both the descent modules, which will conduct studies on Venus, and the base craft, which will fly on for a rendezvous with Halley's Comet after jettisoning them near Venus. Solar batteries are supplying the automatic gear with the required amounts of electric energy, and all the numerous rods of radio aerials and scientific instruments are unfolded.

Kovtunenko said that a thorough check was recently made of all scientific instruments and equipment designed to study the comet. At first ground control failed to receive a telemetry signal which was to indicate that the right rod of an exterior pick-up of a high-frequency analyzer of plasma waves, a scientific instrument jointly developed by Soviet and French engineers, had unfolded but later communications sessions showed the instruments to be functioning normally. The space probes will reach Venus in exactly three months.

"We stand for broad international cooperation to be pursued in the space studies and for their results to be used by all countries," the Soviet scientist said. "This is why we invite specialists from many countries to take part in our experiments. French scientists, for example, are now preparing to participate in the studies of Mars and its satellite [word indistinct] in the late 1980s with the help of instruments mounted on Soviet interplanetary probes, right now we are working on this project which, just like the Vega one, provides for broad international cooperation." Kovtunenko also reported the following latest news from Venusian orbits: The Venera-15 and Venera-16 space probes have completed the radar mapping of the north hemisphere of the morning star. Venera-15 has used up all its working medium, and radio communications with it have been discontinued. But Venera-16 is still responding to messages from earth.

SUMMER TIME CHANGEOVER TO OCCUR 31 MAR

LD151233 Moscow TASS in English 1105 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow, March 15, (TASS) -- The USSR State Commission for Standard Time and Model Frequencies reports that on Sunday, March 31, summer time will be introduced all over the Soviet territory. The transfer to summer time will take place at 2 am, [2300 GMT] on March 31, through moving forward the clock's hands by one hour.

NO CASUALTIES REPORTED IN TAJIKISTAN EARTHQUAKE

LD161440 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1415 GMT 16 Mar 85

[Text] Dushanbe, 16 Mar (TASS) -- At 1213 Moscow time [0913 GMT] today, an earthquake took place in Tajikistan. Its epicenter was situated 45 km east of the settlement of Dzhirgatal. In Dzhirgatal the force of the tremors reached 0.5, in Garm Force 3, and in Dushanbe Force 2-3 [scale not specified]. There were no casualties or reports of damage.

COSMONAUT URGES COOPERATION IN SPACE RESEARCH

LD152127 Moscow TASS in English 1900 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 15 TASS -- "The future of Soviet cosmonautics -- the creation of lasting orbital stations with replaceable crews, a kind of interplanetary terminals from which man would be able to set out on journeys to other worlds and planets -- is inconceivable without extravehicular activities of crews," Soviet cosmonaut Aleksey Leonov, who is now deputy head of the cosmonauts training centre near Moscow, has said in an interview with a TASS correspondent.

Uttered by General Leonov, these words sound in a particularly convincing way. Twenty years ago -- on March 18, 1965, he for the first time in history walked out into the open space from board the spaceship Voskhod-2 which was piloted by Soviet cosmonaut Pavel Belyayev (1925-1970).

Since then many Soviet space crews performed complex work in open space. Suffice it to recall, Leonov said, that my colleagues Leonid Kizim and Vladimir Solovev during their 237-days-long expedition on board the Salyut-7 in 1984 went out into the open space six times, spending there an aggregate of 22 hours 50 minutes.

And finally, the general went on to say, Svetlana Savitskaya woman pilot-cosmonaut of the USSR, went out into the open space where together with mission commander Vladimir Dzhanibekov performed a variety of most complex technological operations. She was the world's first woman to work in open space where she spent three hours and 35 minutes.

At present the Salyut-7 is in orbit in an unmanned flight mode, Leonov said. But I want to recall that on board the station there are always spacesuits which are intended specially for getting out into the open space -- the most elaborate autonomous outfit with its own life-support system -- as well as tools which are necessary for extra-vehicular activities. The idea, expressed by the founder of modern cosmonautics, Konstantin Tsiolkovskiy, to create whole space settlements of humans is acquiring increasingly real and tangible features, the cosmonaut emphasized. Most probably those will be of modular design which will be welded directly in orbit. As it seems to me, science laboratories and whole technological plants tackling a variety of problems in the interests of various branches of the natural economy will be created over there.

But the benefit of space research is not exhausted by applied tasks alone, Aleksey Leonov pointed out. Cosmonautics engenders a host of ideas the solution of which holds out a promise of immense benefit to mankind. Thus, scientists already today associate with outer space a solution to the problem of controlled thermonuclear reactons in ideal vacuum conditions. Problems of regulating the planet's climate are under discussion as well. It is known that a considerable part of the USSR's territory is covered with permafrost. But those lands, too, afford immense resources. If the rays of an articifical sun created in orbit are directed towards the vast territory, there will be enough light there, just like under the rays of the real sun.

The space age, the cosmonaut stressed, should contribute to the unification of all the peoples and states and to the concentration of common efforts. It seems to me that it would be reasonable that all countries should pool their efforts and resources, which are so far used unfortunately for arming purposes, and should be utilized for such a lofty cause as peaceful uses of outer space.